

2023

Press Pack

Our fasteners enable innovation today to build a better tomorrow





ESG: A journey not a destination

By Andrew Nuttall - European MD



The Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015 initiated a change in attitude in dealing with greenhouse gas emissions. The European Parliament ratified this agreement in 2016. The objective was to respond to global climate change and ensure that rising global temperatures were reduced and controlled getting back to preindustrial levels.

TR is a Trifast plc company and as such ESG became a very important part of our future strategy and a Sustainability Committee was formed by our CEO Mark Belton. Members of that Team came from key disciplines in the business to ensure that we covered all bases embracing the Environmental, Sustainability and Governance elements. This culminated in Trifast's Sustainability Report being published.

As MD for TR in Europe my focus has been on our distribution sites in Norway, Sweden, Holland, Germany, Spain, Hungary and the manufacturing facility in Italy. As part of a group transformation project, we had already embarked on creating a 'modern workplace' environment. This involved enhancing the IT infrastructure, the décor and image of our offices, break out areas for staff to relax and lunch together and generally creating a pleasant working environment. All sites are air-conditioned and accredited to ISO 14001 the environmental management system.

In 2022 we embarked upon further expansion and opened a new a distribution hub in Hungary to service that geographical area, and the 7 countries on their border. A new greenfield site allowed us to build and create from the ground up the most sustainable facility in our Group. This included triple glazing ensuring that in very

cold winters and very hot summers that working conditions were excellent and cost effective, and the furniture came from sustainable sources. Solar panels and electric charging units were included in the specification, and the air extraction filtration system throughout the building created a great working environment meeting the building code regulations that the Hungarian government have mandated. Even the runaway rainwater is collected in an ornamental pond which is checked by the environmental agency to ensure that there is no pollution present. Once that has matured, we will be adding reed beds to further cleanse the water and encourage wildlife. [See the full story here.](#)

However, a manufacturing location the size of TR VIC in Italy is a wholly different proposition. This facility is located in Umbria in Italy and had been in private ownership for over 40 years until TR acquired it in 2014. This location in Fossato has a long history of manufacturing high volume fasteners, working on developing products and creating innovative designs for the domestic appliance market.

Over the last 5 years we have invested heavily in creating a manufacturing facility that is 'fit for the future' creating a sustainable production facility cold forging industrial fasteners.

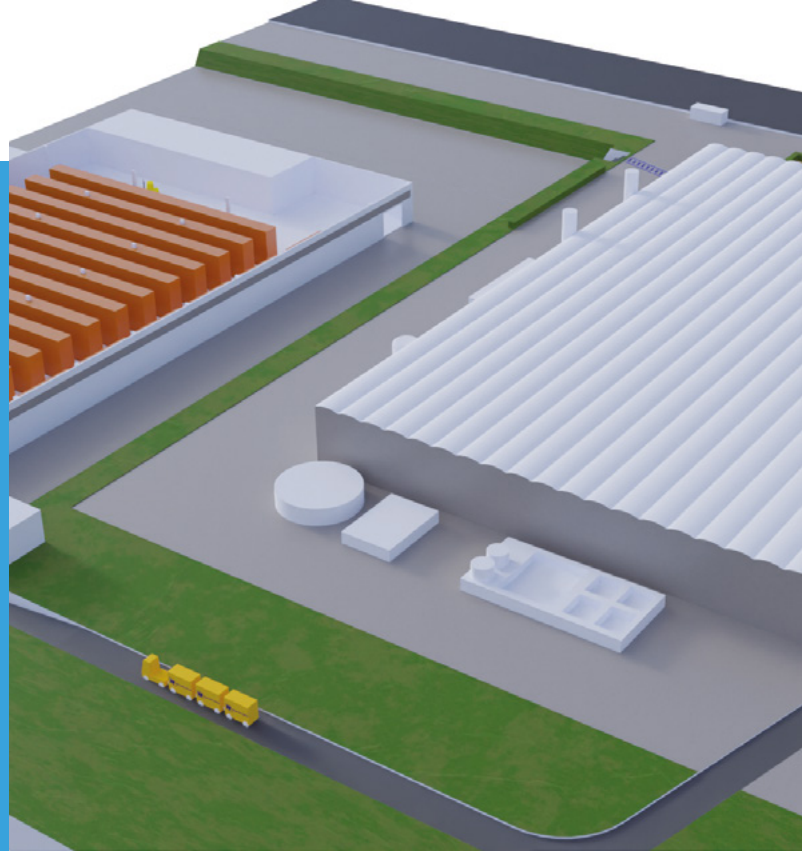
Customers' needs and requirements have also changed over the last 5 years. ESG is high on multinational's agendas, and the reporting of CO2 emissions is a key factor. Their questionnaires, and those of industry bodies such as SAQ 5.0 focussed on supply chain sustainability are also driving change and decisions on where they place business is depending on fulfilling and meeting the criteria. The pandemic added another dimension as companies re assessed their dependence on Asia with increased lead times and the disruption





ESG: A journey not a destination

Continued



to supply chains that had been created. As a result, there has been a concerted drive by customers to 'near shore' to reduce lead times, the high cost of transportation and the need to be able to demonstrate Co2 reductions. It will be interesting however to see how the European cost of product versus anticipated Co2 savings will play out. We are however poised for further growth as we see that this desire to near shore is gathering momentum.

This year we are celebrating TR's 50th anniversary and our last major milestone was when we hosted a Group event for the 45th anniversary in TR VIC in Italy. We had 50 key personnel visit us from around the organisation including the Main Board of Trifast. This gave us an opportunity to completely revamp the offices, and all reception areas creating a modern environment prior to the event. Further investment followed and a roll out program of refurbishment of the main manufacturing location began, and investment in new Italian machinery. We were keen to diversify and had gained the IATF 16949 accreditation a few years before which has enabled us to attract and secure business with Tier 1s supporting the major OEMs. As a result, we invested in cold forging machines capable of making more complex and larger diameters, and in automatic packaging machinery. We have a conscious Industry 4.0 philosophy where feasible.

This investment continued with a recently opened extension to the manufacturing floor space creating an additional 33% capacity and injecting an additional 500-700 million pcs of new capacity. The last of the new machines are being installed during February. New efficient ventilation systems and power plants within manufacturing have been installed and major changes to the finished goods warehouse have been completed. This included infrastructure changes as we created

a new road into the revamped and re-racked warehouse that are Microsoft D365 compliant and operate electric tugs between both buildings. We have had an increased number of successful automotive customer audits since the pandemic and a high percentage of our new business wins have increased the sector diversification that we anticipated following the IATF 16949 accreditation.

I have a Sustainability Project Team in TR VIC headed up by Stefano Pisoni the Managing Director. We have initiatives underway including changes in the way we clean the product after forging to reclaim the oil for reuse and eliminate waste. Most of the domestic appliance manufacturers prefer their product in plastic woven sacks as they are easier to handle and tip into automatic feeders on the production line. We are working on alternative sack material that is organic and have two products on trial at the moment.

As I said in my earlier comments this is a journey not a destination and there is more work to be done, and we are fully committed to doing it. We have produced a video in house documenting this journey, [click here to view](#).





TR introduces range of TENTE Castors



Smart mobility solutions for a range of sectors. TR Fastenings and TENTE Castors, a leading international castor and wheel manufacturer, are working together to enhance TR's already extensive sheet metal range.

The existing product range included on the TR website, has been enhanced with more than 150 new products. TR is now able to provide mobility solutions to a wide range of customers and applications from domestic furniture and laundry carts to hospital equipment and heavy duty industrial.

New products will include Swivel Braked Castors, Swivel Castors and Fixed Castors with accessories such as Circlip Stems, Stem Plates and Threaded Stems. Wheel diameters are available from 14mm to 200mm, serving a wide range of applications.

TENTE were attracted to working with TR to access and supply to their wide customer base in sectors such as health and home, energy, tech & infrastructure and general industrial.

Produced in high-quality materials, including solid rubber or synthetic compounds, this range of Castors is not only designed to be aesthetically pleasing but have longevity and increasing whole-life efficiencies.

Further product features include load capacities ranging from 25kg up to 1,200kg and a wide variety of wheel tread options to suit different situations including: Polyurethane, Polypropylene, Polyamide, Thermoplastic Rubber, Solid Rubber and Elastic Rubber Tread.

Sean Cushen, Commodity Manager, TR Fastenings, said: "Following on from the successful launch

of our Enclosure Hardware products, this was a natural progression to add the TENTE range. Having spent time with the TENTE technical and manufacturing teams on site, we have got to know the brand and we are confident that we can work very closely together."

Carl Garner, Managing Director, TENTE Castors Ltd, said: "TR Fastenings is a global company with a respected reputation in servicing and supplying a wide range of products in many fields of applications and TENTE is a global manufacturer with a wide range of castors and wheels to suit all industries needing the right mobility solution for all their customers.

"It was clear from an early stage, when I spoke with Glenda Roberts, TR Global Projects and Marketing Director at an exhibition and Sean Cushen at a networking event, that our two companies share many values and are passionate about exceeding customer expectations. We are now at the stage where both our companies can grow together through our teams and our brand."



TR PSEP Malaysia receives prestigious Award from Boon Siew Honda



The TR PSEP Management Team were delighted to be given this award, presented by Boon Siew Honda when they visited its manufacturing facility in late November 2022. Mr Tong Ping Siong and Mr Philips George received the award on behalf of their Team.

This was of special significance to the TR Team as the pandemic and manufacturing restrictions imposed by the Government to control Covid meant that they had to work very diligently to ensure that no customers were impacted. The award was given based on service and quality as the best Chutanki - Cold Forging Manufacturer in their supply chain managing over 130 parts.

Boon Siew Honda is a joint venture company formed in 2008 between Honda Motor Company and Oriental Holdings Bhd. TR PSEP has many years of experience in supplying Japanese OEM's and has been a vendor to Honda since 2001. The companies experience of Japanese materials, methodology and expectations has been their strength. This has ensured growth within the Malaysian automotive sector, both with the two major Malaysian brands and the Tier 1's who require the level of quality and service that TR PSEP can provide.

TR PSEP, established in 1972, is accredited to IATF 16949 and was acquired by Trifast plc in 2011. The company manufactures multi-stage and safety critical cold forged products at both of its facilities in Shah Alam. Their capability and knowledge in supplying the Automotive industry strengthened TR's manufacturing and product offering in this sector.

Mr Tong said *"Following some difficult trading*

conditions due to the pandemic, receiving this award has really lifted everyone's spirits. We look forward to working even more closely with Boon Siew Honda. We are very grateful for this recognition."

TR PSEP has continued to invest in its facilities, completing the installation of solar panels on the roof of the buildings which provide not only the locations energy needs but enables the company to sell the overcapacity back to the national grid. Sustainability is a key pillar in the Trifast Group's strategy.





TR Fastenings at Fastener Fair Global 2023



TR Fastenings, part of the Trifast plc Group, is delighted to again be exhibiting at this year's Fastener Fair Global, an exciting year for TR as we celebrate our 50th anniversary.

TR supplies components to more than 5,000 companies globally across a wide range of industries, including [light & heavy vehicle](#), [health & home](#), [energy, tech and infrastructure](#) and [general industrial](#). Our key focus at Fastener Fair Global is to reengage with our Master Distributors in Europe, and to seek out new [Distributors](#) in geography where we currently don't have coverage.

This creates a great opportunity to network and showcase our proprietary products and enhanced range. This includes our core product [Self Clinch](#) and the increased range of [Fasteners for Sheet Metal](#), [Enclosure Hardware](#), [Screws](#) and [Inserts for Plastic](#), [Cable Glands](#), [Security Fasteners](#) and [Plastic and Rubber Hardware](#).

Manning the stand will be key members of our Distributor Team, commodity specialists and technical engineering team. We are particularly keen to have meetings on the stand to discuss how we can further increase our support and assisting in distributing more of our product.

In 2022 TR invested heavily in Europe including creating a German logistics hub to ensure that we have near shored stock to support our Master Distributors, eliminating Brexit issues and smoothing out our supply chain. A by product of this is that this also reduces our carbon footprint assisting with our Sustainability goals. Additionally, we have invested heavily in another two of our European sites through creating a new facility in Hungary and a €5m extension to the TR VIC manufacturing location in Italy.

The TR Team is looking forward to meeting with our European distributors, and end users who attend the event. Visit us in Hall 1 stand 612.

21st - 23rd March 2023, Messe Stuttgart, Germany, Stand 612





TR Fastenings to exhibit at the Advanced Engineering Show in Sweden

You're invited!

ADVANCED ENGINEERING 2023

19 & 20 April 2023
Prioritet Serneke Arena,
Gothenburg

Stand K10



The internationally regarded [Advanced Engineering](#) show returns to Sweden this April, and TR Fastenings Ltd (TR), part of the Trifast plc group of companies, is delighted to be making a return visit, the first since the pandemic.

This year the show is being held in Gothenburg, following the Advanced Engineering show in the UK in November 2022 which was a success. Advanced Engineering Sweden represents a unique opportunity for TR to meet representatives from across the industry spectrum.

The venue is the impressive Prioritet Serneke Arena, a multi-use complex in the city's Kviberg district. This is a two day event (April 19th & 20th), with manufacturers, designers and specifiers attending. The TR Fastenings team will be looking forward to existing customers visiting the stand and establishing networks with new ones. Much of the focus here will be on the environmental benefits and development of products, allied to the design and supply of specific materials and components.

TR's Technical and Innovation Centre is based in the Lindholmen Science Park in Gothenburg, which is home to representatives of major industries, including automotive and communications. TR's presence in the area enables collaboration with key customers and to have an involvement in development projects.

Niklas Andersson, Operations Manager for TR Sweden, says;

"We work closely with Tier 1 suppliers and using our expertise we assist with OEM requirements, advising on the right fastener technology for their needs."

"Our Gothenburg operation opens doors for us, and this show will help with those early conversations with customers where we can discuss their requirements in person this year."

TR has established three global Technical and Innovation Centres; Birmingham in the UK, Gothenburg in Sweden and South Carolina in the USA.

Visit stand K:10 and meet the TR team:

Manoj Parmar – Business Development Manager

Nirari Yousif – Strategic Account Manager

Eugen Kuhn – Engineering Manager

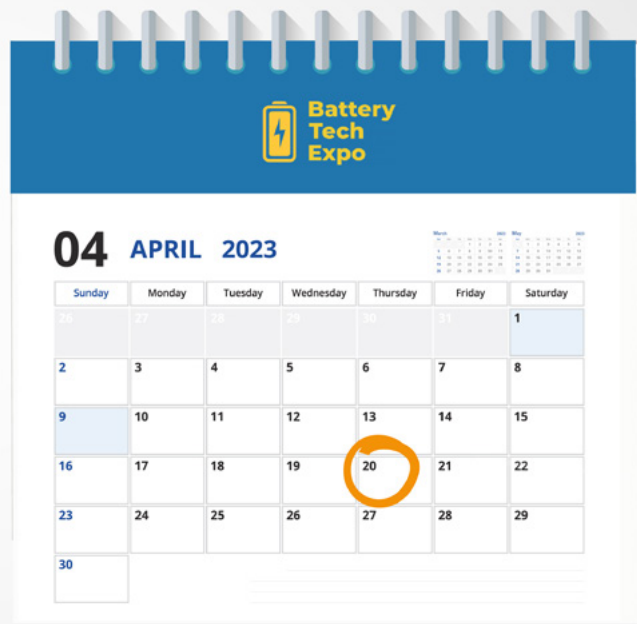
Patrik Ringdahl – Technical Manager

**19th & 20th April 2023, Prioritet Serneke
Arena, Gothenburg, Stand K:10**





TR Fastenings to exhibit at UK's largest Battery Tech Expo



TR Fastenings Ltd (TR), part of the Trifast plc group of companies, will once again be exhibiting at the annual Battery Tech Expo - the largest UK event for the battery sector. This year's event, the sixth of its kind, will be held at the world-famous Grand Prix venue, Silverstone on 20th April and promises to be as busy as ever with the largest audience of battery industry buyers, specialists and suppliers under one roof.

With hundreds of visitors and exhibitors, and 40 industry speakers all in one place, on one day, Battery Tech Expo 2023 will provide TR with a not to be missed opportunity to showcase its products and expertise to increase its influence within this hugely buoyant industry.

As EV sector growth continues apace with global record sales, this Expo is the perfect platform for TR to demonstrate the significance of fasteners and engineered components for the fast-moving EV and EVCU market. TR's product range includes battery retention bolts, cable management hardware, compression limiters and designed in special components.

Sven Brehler, Director of Engineering at TR who will be at the show, says:

"We are experiencing increased worldwide demand from car and battery manufacturers and so we are continuing to develop our product range to meet this opportunity. We have been exhibiting at this Expo for many years and as it attracts professionals from all segments of the battery industry, we look forward to increasing our network."

"The high-tech engineering sector is booming in the UK and this is the ideal event for key decision makers and influencers from across the power industry to share insights, best practice and latest innovations. It's a fantastic platform for TR to share expertise and to support this sector."

Joining Sven at the event will be Dan Pereira, UK and Ireland Engineering Manager and John Pountney, UK Automotive Sales Manager.

20th April 2023, The Wing, Silverstone, UK, Stands 27 & 28

