

# Press Pack 2019/20



Press Releases

In the Spotlight

Products



**TR FASTENINGS** IS RECOGNISED THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRY FOR WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS & SERVICES

WE MANUFACTURE, STOCK & DISTRIBUTE A VAST RANGE OF INDUSTRIAL FASTENERS & COMPONENTS

Awards

Community

Exhibitions



March 2019



### Celebrating Women and Apprentices at TR Fastenings

Today (8th March 2019) is International Women's Day. It also marks the end of National Apprenticeship week. So, as we are hugely proud of our female employees and our apprentices, we thought we'd have a double celebration today and share some great TR statistics about both!

Four of our current eight apprentices are female;

- Lydia Ball – HR Apprentice, Uckfield
- Amber Battye, Business Apprentice – H,S & E, North East
- Emily Cowens, Business Apprentice, North East
- Emily Haigh, Warehouse Apprentice – North East
- Five of our seven location heads in the UK are female.
- We have a pay gap of only 2.2% compared with an average figure of 21% in the manufacturing industry. Source: BBC

Lydia Ball, our HR apprentice in Uckfield, says:

*"I wanted to leave school and get a job, but I still wanted to continue my education, so getting an apprenticeship was an ideal way to do both. TR Fastenings is an amazing company to work for and I really enjoy working here. My team is wonderful and I feel really safe, valued and looked after. I have already been trained on a range of areas which have given me my own responsibilities and enabled me to identify my strengths and I look forward to developing my career further at TR."*

May 2019



Certification allows TR to bid for Government-level and other contracts handling sensitive information.

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners, has passed an audit by HM Government's [Cyber Essentials scheme](#). The certification means that TR is now qualified to bid for Government and other sensitive contracts, given its high standard of base controls in cybersecurity.

In order for any supplier or business to be able to bid for Government contracts which involve handling sensitive and personal information they now require Cyber Essentials certification. This also applies to contracts involving the provision of certain technical products and services, which may be susceptible to cybersecurity risks.

According the Cyber Essentials website, the scheme is 'designed to help UK organisations improve their defences and demonstrate publicly their commitment to cybersecurity.' Passing the audit requires businesses to show that they conform to a set of 'baseline technical controls' and measures to prevent and manage issues such as:

- Hacking
- Phishing
- Password guessing

*"The protection of confidential data and information is something we take extremely seriously at TR", comments John Paton, Global Head of IT Security at TR Fastenings' parent business, Trifast plc.*

*"Our customers quite rightly want to work with partners that can be trusted to access and handle confidential or sensitive information and that have the measures in place to keep this data safe and secure. Having this certification demonstrates not only our credibility in that respect but also our dedication to quality and integrity when it comes to customer information."*

*Although it was not necessary in order to pass the audit, TR appointed an independent auditing body to assess its cybersecurity standards and conduct extra tests, and TR is now planning to undertake further tests to qualify for the next level of certification, Cyber Essentials Plus. It hopes to achieve this by 2020.*

August 2019

# CASE STUDY



## TR Fastenings Provides Bespoke Fastening to Leading Tier 1 Automotive Company

Faltec Europe Employs TR Fastenings to Deliver Competitive Fastener Supply and Tooling Solution.

Credit: North East Automotive Alliance

### Background

Faltec Europe, a global vehicle trim product manufacturer, required a bespoke fastening for a new major programme it had recently secured.

As TR Fastenings (TRF) and Faltec are known to each other and are both active within the NEAA network, Faltec approached the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings to tender for the work. As a result, a Request for Qualification (RFQ) was issued.

### Approach and Solution

As a global full-service provider TRF was able to identify the original equipment source and submit a competitive supply solution. TRF was awarded the initial business.

Not only can TRF provide fastener solutions, but in this instance, it was able to supply tooling compatible for the fastener.

Timescales were challenging for both parties but with close co-operation not only were qualified parts supplied but tooling for development and ongoing production was delivered on time.

TRF provided ongoing support throughout the initial trial phase and was asked to assist in technical evaluation ready for onsite production at Faltec.

Following the successful project, TRF has been nominated to supply serial production expected to last over three years, cementing its relationship with Faltec.

### Outcome and Advantage

- Parts and tooling were delivered on spec and on time given challenging timescales.
- Due to TRF's extensive capability, it was able to offer Faltec additional product tooling over and above the initial bespoke fastening RFQ.
- TRF provided ongoing project support ensuring onsite production timescales were met.
- The successful project has resulted in ongoing work for TRF for the supply of serial production for a further three years.

Click to download as a [PDF here](#).

September 2019



Maddy Webb, director of quality at Trifast Plc, speaks to Editor Will Lowry about the importance of quality within the fastener industry and how the Group's quality strategy is helping it work closer with customers to find optimal solutions.

### How did your career start within the fastener industry?

"I started at Trifast Plc, known in the industry as TR Fastenings, in 2000 as a location quality manager – specifically for the automotive division. I then became involved in the supplier quality side, travelling to Taiwan and Europe to assess manufacturing plants, analysing their processes and systems, and addressing any quality concerns. Later I moved into a customer quality role, where I was involved in how customers approach quality. A big part of this was understanding the globalisation of customers' businesses and how it could potentially impact us at TR. In April 2018 I was appointed director of quality in recognition for the work I had done.

However, it was the experience I gained prior to starting at TR that has been the foundation to everything I have done. I started with a university degree in metallurgy and materials engineering, which isn't that common. Most people who study engineering degrees go into structural engineering, which is great for customer applications. However, when it comes to the components themselves it doesn't really help. Therefore I like to

know what is going on inside the products and understand the applications, so metallurgy and materials engineering appealed to me.

After university I worked for several organisations including a heat treatment company, which provided me with insight into heat treatment processes and the finishing industry. I also worked for a tier 1 to the automotive industry, focussed on seating assembly. This gave me valuable experience of working with an OEM daily, which helped me in turn understand how customers' requirements flow down the supply chain. In addition to this I worked as a quality consultant setting up the QS9000 standard for companies in the automotive industry."

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### You have been in your role as director of quality at TR Fastenings for over 12 months. What has been TR's main strategy on quality in this time and what are your plans for the future?

"We have focused on the transition from the ISO 16949 standard to IATF 16949, which was key for us as a business. It made sure we were compliant with global requirements. IATF 16949 is an automotive standard specifically for automotive manufacturing and we have now completed the transition at all our automotive manufacturing sites worldwide. A lot of our customers rely on the standard, and they won't take quotes or parts from suppliers who are not accredited.

During this time, our distribution sites have also transitioned onto the new ISO 9001:2015 standard. This is absolutely core for every customer we have, as they all want to check we are running our business and monitoring our processes in a recognised and efficient way.

That is a big difference between us and somewhere like Amazon – where, if it goes wrong, the customer simply sends it back and gets their money back, but the process isn't reviewed. With ISO 9001:2015 we are able to analyse if we have a problem and look at how we can use this to drive improvement, to make sure it is right next time.

A key factor when adopting both these standards is taking what you learn in one industry sector and applying it to other sectors. For instance, the IATF 16949 standard is brilliant for manufacturing with certain tools, but we might not want to adopt all the practices for our non-automotive sites. Therefore, once the standard is established we look to pick out what is best practice and apply it to our key manufacturing sites that aren't automotive and move them towards the IATF standard – to further support some of our product ranges.

September 2019

Looking forward, we have a lot of internal investment planned in the core structure of quality, including the training and development of our staff. There are so many opportunities out there that if we give the people the tools, they will identify their own improvements, which will help us improve as a Group.

Another area, and the fastest growing one in our business, is with the global tier 1's where they have shared programmes, and they want consistency. This involves different divisions of the Group around the world and how we interact with a customer that has globalised its platform.

As a Group we are exploring how we meet those needs and how we can best balance out those requirements. We have a global enquiry portal where all customer enquiries are loaded and my team and I have early involvement in that process to guide and assist.

More and more customers are looking to standardise their global operations and we work hard to support them in this and they can leverage the benefit. This helps drive best practice and provides challenges for us across the Group regarding supply chain management. It is crucial for us to understand what our customers need from us, as it is an ever-changing environment when it comes to quality. There is always a new standard that comes along and changes your perspective. It is a constant cycle of finding out what is needed and reacting to it quickly and effectively, whilst also maintaining and strengthening that customer relationship.

One more project we are working on is the correlation between sales and quality. Customers' requirements and a company's quality are traditionally at loggerheads. The portal allows us to give support early on in the process, and not after the event which is when emotions run high! For us it is about getting the balance between quality and delivering on the needs and expectations of the customers. We look to use our knowledge of quality to drive how we interact with these customers. By ensuring sales and quality work closer together you can optimise your service and ensure customers are getting the right solutions."

### **You mention the correlation between sales and quality. What do frontline fastener sales and purchasing people need to understand about fastener quality? What questions do they need to ask?**

"Sales teams are responding to the request for the fastener a customer actually asks for. However, it's easy to get caught up in what the customer is



saying and we may not always ask the right questions about the application, and the use of the part. This is particularly important for special parts.

Are they asking us for a part they are already using and they just want another supplier, or are they developing a new part for a specific application?

It is vital you understand this, because there are two sides to fastener manufacturing. There is the straight forward, it exists, it is defined to a standard, please make it. In which case you just need to know what that standard is and what the expectations are for approval, as well as use. The other side is supporting the customer to specify the fastener properly. When developing a part, customers' usually need a lot more support. They may have drawings that no standard fastener process can meet. You will also often find the required product will have features you might not be able to produce from your machines at the price they want.

That is why it is crucial you find out whether the customer is asking for what they really mean. If a customer ends up saying: 'I want this widget' and you allow them to call it 'a widget' – when actually it is a very straightforward hex head set screw – you have then lost the traceability on what it is, you have lost the ability to meet a standard."

September 2019

### How does TR make sure the sales team recognise this and act upon it?

“We are in a strong position as we have an excellent sales and engineering team with a lot of technical knowledge. In some companies the only technical resource they may have is the quality team. For us, technical expertise goes a long way beyond quality. We have people right up front with the customers working through those expectations and requirements who have the right level of knowledge to advise them correctly.

Quality is the framework for what we are doing. It is not necessarily the day on day conversation with the customers – that is usually managed by the engineers. Once the specification is set that is the point where quality comes into its own; because quality is compliance to standard, but until you have set the standard you can't comply with anything.

We already have a high-level of technical knowledge within the Group, but we are still working on developing our knowledge even further and we do this through product training. A key tool we have for this is our website, which includes a lot of information on the products, as well as videos and training courses. Training enables you to expand an employee's knowledge and underline the role quality can play in helping them work with the customers to find solutions. I like the idea and concept that everyone in the company can work for quality – everyone is part of the network and striving towards the same goals.”

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### Are customers starting to appreciate the importance of quality?

“What we find is that customers sometimes think quality is so well assured that they take it for granted and they don't realise the extra steps we take, and processes we have introduced, to ensure only the highest quality products reach them.

You do such a good job protecting the customer, they assume the product will always be right whoever they buy it from and so they try to push the price down or they go somewhere cheaper where they aren't so regimented regarding checks. What we then find is that customers come back to us because the quality of the products starts to become an issue and they realise the quality we deliver is not guaranteed throughout the industry.

That is why we always look to define exactly what the customer is asking for and make sure any extra feature or requirements are included in the drawing. This means everyone that quotes on the drawing is quoting on a like for like basis. If you allow the customer to not define some of those requirements, you are giving them the opportunity to get somebody else to quote at a cheaper price, but they end up getting a different product from their actual requirements.”

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### Is there a time to say 'no' to the customer?

“Absolutely. Once you understand the customer's requirements and you have gone back with your proposal, if the customer doesn't like it and they want to drive you down on price you have to ask yourself what you are prepared to do as a company. Where does the risk come?

I am not talking about a company's sales strategy, but when a customer wants you to take out steps that are there to guarantee quality and provide assurance. That is when you have to ask yourself as a business is this what we want to get into, and as a group we take this very seriously. Previously we have challenged customers on what they said they wanted and what they are prepared to pay for. It is always a see-saw and we strive to find the balance. We don't just say 'yes' to customers because we want the business, but we also don't just want to say 'no'. We look to get a business balance where we can meet the customers' needs whilst still delivering a quality product.”

October 2019

Not many people's career paths will have started from the top of Mount Kilimanjaro, but that is where it all began for Mark Belton who in February celebrated 20 years at the global fastenings group Trifast, known in the industry as TR Fastenings.



**Initially Mark trained as an accountant with KPMG. “As soon as I qualified, I left and went travelling. I didn’t want to be an auditor as I preferred making the decisions, rather than checking other people’s work. Plus, travelling really gave me a greater understanding of working with other nations and cultures.”**

“It was at the top of Mount Kilimanjaro where, by chance, I met another accountant who was working for a charity organisation in Africa. After learning about the qualities required for such a role, I realised this would be a great opportunity for me to use my skills and travel at the same time. I applied and got a position at the same charity, which was based in Tanzania, Zaire (as it was then) and Rwanda, working with refugees.”

“I worked alongside the UN, getting involved with logistics, admin, finance, dealing with the press; you name it, I got involved in it. It was very much about pulling the team together.”

“It was an unbelievable and humbling experience that usually an accountant would rarely have. Once I got back to the UK, I still had the buzz to work with different cultures, so I became a global accountant – working for several companies before joining Trifast, just over 20 years ago.”

“One of the beauties of being in a Group finance role is that you are involved in absolutely everything. You are dealing with employees from operations across the USA, Asia and Europe. By doing this you get to know all the different parts of the business because ultimately every decision made comes back to a financial implication. That was a really good foundation for me to grow within TR.”

A big impact on the market and TR was the financial crisis in 2009. “There was a restructuring of the company and I was involved in getting the business back into 1.830 shape. We really had to start at the beginning and once again set the foundations. I became group finance director and along with Malcolm Diamond (chairman), Jim Barker (CEO) and the rest of the board, began to get morale back into the business and do the simple things right.

That progressed very well and we started to grow again and develop our global accounts.”

Once back in a profitable position, to help with TR's evolution and to build its position within key markets, the next step was a period of acquisitions. “We added TR PSEP (Malaysia) in 2011, TR VIC (Italy) in 2014, and TR Kuhlmann (Germany) in 2015, to the TR family. Adding these companies helped develop our business in key areas, with each adding different qualities and aspects to the overall Group. The most significant factor was that each business we acquired had the same mentality, culture and philosophy as us. A lot of companies talk about having a ‘unique culture’ but we really have something special. You can go to any of our sites around the world and it is the same culture – investing in people, investing in quality, and treating staff, customers and suppliers with respect and fairness. That ethos is crucial to the way we work and to our success.”

**“Adding these companies helped develop our business in key areas, with each adding different qualities and aspects to the overall Group. The most significant factor was that each business we acquired had the same mentality, culture and philosophy as us.”**

October 2019

As the business grew there were a lot of opportunities to make some step changes, with Mark becoming CEO in 2015. “Jim and Malcolm came to me and encouraged me to apply for the CEO role. Besides the experience I had gathered over more than fifteen years at TR, I knew the people in the organisation, I knew the business and, importantly, I knew the culture. Having such a great team within TR also made it an easy decision for me to make.”

“At times, I see myself like a conductor of an orchestra; my job is to pull together all these instruments to make great music. Being able to collaborate with everyone and guide and support them, is essential. Our people know their functions and roles, so it is a case of letting them know where we are going as a business and motivating them to achieve our goals. They then understand the part they are going to play in delivering the vision.”

The Group’s strategy of investment has recently continued with the acquisition of UK-based Precision Technology Supplies (PTS) in 2018. “PTS has been a great acquisition, it has a strong management team and adds a lot of product knowledge to the Group, especially in stainless steel, which will assist us with our sourcing going forward. The addition of PTS has also improved our position in the distributor sector, an area in which we have been performing phenomenally – not only in the UK but also across the rest of Europe. We have 34 Master Distributors around Europe, helping us reach the parts we can’t reach ourselves – predominantly selling our TR branded product ranges.”

“As for the end user markets, automotive is a key sector for us and despite the current negative media around this sector, we are continuing to build market share thanks to our global capabilities and the emergence of new technologies resulting from the ongoing evolution of electric vehicles. We monitor the market closely for the next exciting areas of opportunity and we are flexible enough to move quickly when required.”

“At the moment we are seeing automotive companies consolidating their supply chain, preferring global players that they can rely on to deliver a full service across the world. We have our own manufacturing facilities in Asia, Europe, and the UK, and we are continuously investing in the quality and capacity of our manufacturing sites, most of which have recently been accredited to IATF 16949, putting us in a very strong position. A key aspect of working with automotive customers is being able to offer the same specific part to different global locations. Thanks to our global network and our shared market knowledge, we are able to deliver the right solution for each customer wherever it is needed.”

**“... we are continuously investing in the quality and capacity of our manufacturing sites, most of which have recently been accredited to IATF 16949, putting us in a very strong position.”**

Where TR is winning when it comes the automotive industry is by getting its parts ‘designed in’ to new models and by working with the electric vehicle (EV) sector. “For the bigger accounts, the key thing is staying close to the customer and adding value by getting involved at the early stages of R&D. We have a very strong partnership with our customers.

Our engineers talk to the customers’ engineers and work with them on applications and solutions, including products into plastics, mouldings and plastic composite. Working with the customer and being able to manufacture the parts ourselves gives us greater control of quality, which is another big positive with customers because they know we are in control of the supply chain.”

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**TR has its own manufacturing facilities in Asia, Europe, and the UK, and is continuously investing in the quality and capacity of its manufacturing sites**



October 2019

**“Working with the customer and being able to manufacture the parts ourselves gives us greater control of quality, which is another big positive with customers because they know we are in control of the supply chain.”**

“When it comes to automotive, it really doesn’t matter if a car is electric, hybrid, petrol or diesel, as the majority of our parts goes into the chassis, dashboard, seating, lighting and the interior of a car.”

“Going forward, China will be one of the fastest growing areas for EV, as it is dedicated to reducing the high levels of pollution it has in the country. Also, the USA, with a number of start-up EV companies emerging, will be an opportunity. We are keeping close to these markets and our customers’ R&D technical centres, as well as focusing on Europe, which is also rapidly developing EV solutions.”

“We have set up an Innovation and Technical Centre in Gothenburg, Sweden, an area in which many of the key players are developing forward-thinking solutions for the automotive market, including EV technology. It is a prime location for us to be based in and we are working on some exciting projects. We will also be opening an Innovation and Technical Centre in the Midlands, UK, in the summer and will be working with some big OEMs through our tier 1 customers.”

“Interestingly, we are seeing more of our electronic customers entering the EV arena, especially in battery and EV charging units. We have a large presence in the electronics sector and we are already working with customers in this area.”

“Electronics is a more competitive market for us, with slightly more commodity items than ‘designed in’ parts. This often leads to a focus on cost, however, more companies are beginning to realise it’s about the total cost of ownership (TCO) rather than the price of individual parts. At TR, we are all about providing the whole package, including a consistent, quality supply of products, backed by excellent customer service.”

Another key sector for the Group is domestic appliances, which has shown steady growth in recent years. “When we acquired TR VIC, it gave us a really good footprint in the domestic appliance sector. TR VIC is one of the largest European fastener manufacturers to the white goods sector and, since the acquisition, it has gone from strength to strength. We also enjoy success in Asia, where we have a number of large domestic appliance customers, where having close relationships between our engineers and customer engineering teams is key.”

With a head office in the UK, a big unknown for the Group is the potential impact of BREXIT. “As soon as it was announced two years ago, we set up a cross-functional BREXIT team across the company in the UK, as well as involving our European colleagues. We carried out reviews with our customers and with our supply chains, so we understood the whole picture. From that we have Plan A, Plan B, Plan C, etc, based on the eventual outcome.”

“Our main concern is around supply delivery, which is why we are increasing our inventory levels. The last thing we ever want to do is stop a customer’s production line, so we are taking steps to ensure this doesn’t happen. With our distributors, we are ensuring we have the right products to hand, supported by impeccable quality and service, and are there to offer help with any technical issues they may have.”

“We are in a good position, but an unknown factor is ultimately how our customers will be impacted by BREXIT. We are staying close to our customers to ensure we fully understand what their requirements will be. This will help us to assist them where necessary, whatever the outcome of BREXIT.”

Looking to the development of the fastener industry, Mark believes that consolidation is inevitable. “I believe there will be further sector consolidation in the next 5 – 10 years, as it is getting harder for smaller companies to keep on top of increasing changes in legislation and quality requirements. That said, there will always be a place for smaller fastener companies who have carved out a niche for themselves.”

October 2019

**“We have just embarked on a substantial investment programme, Project ATLAS. This is the largest organic investment we have ever made – GB£15 million over four years.”**

“A big ‘game changer’ for the industry will be digitalisation, which will provide the efficiencies the supply chain needs. That is why we are investing heavily in this area. We have just embarked on a substantial investment programme, Project ATLAS. This is the largest organic investment we have ever made – GB£15 million over four years.



Before pushing the green light, our team spent a great deal of time going around the business looking at the IT infrastructure, management information systems and processes, which highlighted the benefits of bringing all of these aspects together within the Group.”

“We are very much a decentralised group, as each site has its own P&L, although, over the top of this we provide Group services to give support (Group sales and marketing, HR, IT, etc).

From this structure, we benefit by pulling best practice together around the Group and sharing knowledge, skills, as well as customer and supplier information.”

“ATLAS is an exciting project and it is something we are really embracing. It is not just an ERP implementation, it is a global business transformation, drawing the Group even closer together.”

Whilst digitalisation provides a big opportunity within the industry, Mark is clear it needs to go hand in hand with investing in engineering and people. “People buy off people. People want help; they want to know about the part; they want to talk to an engineer about its capabilities and understand the product. We have lots of colleagues at TR who have a great deal of product knowledge and our aim is to feed that knowledge down into the next generation via training schemes and apprenticeships. We are committed to developing our people’s talent and giving them training and support to reach their potential.”

“Equally as important is to increase the capacity and efficiencies of our machines and manufacturing capabilities, to support our external customers and inter-company business alike. To really grow our presence, it is about investing in our people, our capacity, our products and our service, as well as looking for like-minded businesses to join the TR family that fit our culture, which is very special.”

November 2019



With the global market for electric vehicles (EV) growing at approximately 60% per year since 2014, the current narrative points to an automotive industry that is set to enter a period of wide-ranging and transformative change. However, if companies want to have a successful, long-term future then key strategic decisions need to be made with caution over the next 18 months as sales continue to shift and regulations tighten.

As a full service provider with a global reach from the USA to Asia and Europe to the UK, TR Fastenings is consistently developing established relationships with partners and customers throughout the world within the automotive space. We are in a solid position to respond to global developments and are ready to play a significant role in shaping the industry as we progress forwards.

As such, we were recently invited by The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), Santander Corporate & Commercial and the Department for International Trade (DIT) to be part of a delegation of UK suppliers to address 95 companies in Warsaw, Poland, to discuss the growing international capabilities of TR Fastenings and how we contribute to the wider evolution of the automotive sector.

Poland has a large base of automotive suppliers at each stage of the supply chain and presently, automotive manufacturing is one of the largest industrial sectors in the country, accounting for 11.0 per cent of sold production value in this part of its economy.



November 2019

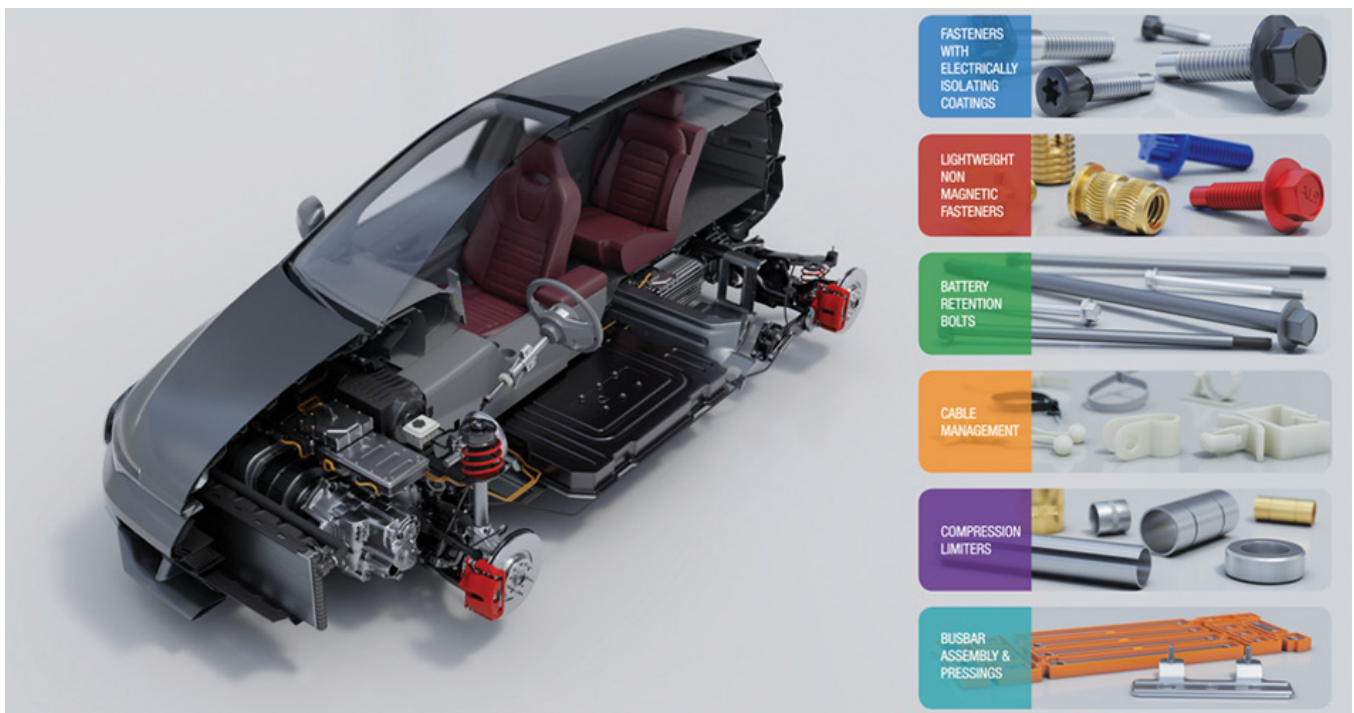
### Driving OEMs into the future

Automotive OEMs face some serious challenges. We supply over 10,000 different fasteners annually to Tier 1s in the automotive sector. These cost effective parts are predominantly manufactured, according to our zero defect philosophy, at our flagship manufacturing plants in Malaysia and 2 factories in Taiwan – the gateway to our Asia/Pacific OEM relations.

The expectations of the customer have changed. Due to the waning of product differentiation and a general increase in vehicle quality throughout the sector, customers are becoming less loyal to a specific brand and expect more high-end features to be standard.

However, many automotive customers have specific needs in terms of product and in order to help customers maximise a component's full potential, TR's team of Application Engineers work closely with their Tier 1 customers' design engineers. TR has built a reputation as the 'go to' company for support and our technical team are happy to arrange on site visits for problem solving or a like-for-like cost-saving alternative product development or the design of a totally new component.

We work closely with our customers to localise their parts and supply base and offer lean supply solutions close to their facilities. Our global presence and market expertise enables us to support Tier 1 companies on an international basis, leveraging volumes and simplifying supply chains.



March 2019



### EPW screw named winner of F+F magazine's 'Route to Fastener Innovation' award

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners, has been named the winner of Fastener and Fixing (F+F) magazine's 'Route to Fastener Innovation 2019' award for its self-extruding EPW screw.

A record 27 products were entered into the competition and the TR screw was announced as the overall winner ahead of two runners up at Fastener Fair Stuttgart on Wednesday 20th March.

The award is designed to 'underline the key role innovation plays within the fastener and fixing industry', according to F+F's deputy editor Claire Aldridge. *'With the standard of products high, it was difficult to pick between them, however, three products stood out.'*

Designed, manufactured and patented at TR VIC in Italy, the EPW screw is a self-extruding, high strength thread-form fastener which creates its own female thread in punched sheet metal, thereby dramatically reducing assembly times and costs. The screw works by being aligned to the pilot hole in the sheet metal, where it then forms the extruded collar, combining the forming of the thread and the creation of a strong extruded profile, before finally tightening and clamping into the metal.

The key benefits of the EPW screw include:

- Removable and strong screw joint
- High stripping torque
- High break loose and prevailing torque
- Excellent vibration resistance, meaning it can withstand pressured environments
- Combined thread forming and creation of strong extruded profile
- Very high radial compression on screw shank
- Standard machine screws can be used in the thread created by the EPW screw



March 2019



Commenting on the win, Karol Gregorczyk, Sales and Development Director at TR VIC, said:

*"It's fantastic to have received this accolade from F+F and especially to be recognised for innovation, which is something we champion and pride ourselves in at TR. The development of the EPW screw is a culmination of the hard work and talent of our design team, as well as the significant investment we have made here at TR VIC."*

*"First and foremost, we are proud that we have delivered a product which allows our customers to make significant improvements to their manufacturing processes, reducing production times and increasing cost-effectiveness."*

April 2019



### TR Holland receives fifth 100% delivery award from former Philips business

**TR Fastenings, the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, has received recognition for its 100% delivery record from Signify Winterswijk (formerly Philips). This is the fifth time TR has been given the award by the company.**

TR supplies an array of C-class products to Philips in Holland, including screws, nuts, clips and plastic components. Out of the more than 400 lines supplied, there was a 0% failure rate on delivery. TR Holland has supplied into Philips since 2008, having offered consultation at the time regarding the company's requirement for a specific type of screw.

The award was presented to TR at its Holland site in Oldenzaal by Johan Damkot, Senior buyer from Philips. Jeanette ter Riet, Ron Vlutters and Hans Nijhof represented TR to receive the award.

Ron Vlutters, Managing Director of TR Holland, commented: *"100% delivery is no easy feat and the fact that we have achieved this milestone and been rewarded by our customer for the fifth time is something we are hugely proud of. Our dedication to excellence, quality and customer service is something we take very seriously and it is fantastic to be recognised by our customers in this way."*

June 2019



TR Fastenings, the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, has received a global service excellence award from Adient, a major Tier 1 seating manufacturer for the automotive sector.

Adient's Anna Bakic Hill and Maria Tono visited TR's Technical Innovation Centre in Gothenburg where they were given a tour of the product showroom before presenting the award to Ron Vlutters, Managing Director of TR Holland. TR received the award for excellence in quality, commercial service and sustainability.

Also present from the TR team were Roberto Bianchi, Manoj Parmar and Nirari Yousif from TR Sweden, along with Ron Vlutters and Strategic Account Manager Katarina Kachmanova, who were in Gothenburg to attend the city's Automotive Engineering show. Following the presentation, the TR representatives accompanied the Adient guests to their offices in Arendal and their plant in Torslanda.

Katarina Kachmanova comments:

*"It's so important to us to be recognised for service, quality and sustainability, as we take these very seriously and strive to deliver excellence in these areas at all times. We are very proud to have been given this award and we are looking forward to continuing our relationship with the Adient team as the automotive industry continues to develop and advance."*

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings' USA team receives second award from Yanfeng Global Automotive Interiors



July 2019



TR Fastenings Inc, the TR Fastenings (TR) North American business, has achieved a Distinguished Supplier award from leading automotive interiors business Yanfeng Global Automotive Interiors (YFAI), the second year running it has received an award from the company. The award was presented at YFAI's annual North American Supplier Performance Awards event, at which 18 companies in total were honoured. The Awards recognise the company's top suppliers for their outstanding track record in the areas of quality, cost, logistics, development, technology and service.

TR, a global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high-quality and Cat C industrial fastenings, was granted Distinguished Supplier status by YFAI, having previously been honoured with a Supplier Excellence award in 2018. This new distinction was given for TR's excellent customer service and delivery record for YFAI, based on the very strong relationship that has been built between the TR team and the YFAI purchasing department.

Glenda Roberts, Group Sales and Marketing Director at TR Fastenings, comments: *"Our global reach and expertise in automotive fasteners means that we build and sustain excellent relationships with our customers, built upon expert knowledge and second-to-none customer service. To be recognised by Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, the global leader in automotive interior, is a great tribute to the hard work and commitment shown by our team in the USA and across our entire global network."*

October 2019



TR is delighted once again to be in the winners' enclosure for its IR & financial reporting activities with the investment community.

TRIFAST was recognised at the prestigious 2019 Corporate & Finance Awards, receiving a Silver Winner for its Annual Report in the 'Best online report: AIM/small cap' category. This is the second time in two years TR has been honoured for its hard work in this category.

The Annual Report is the main benchmark for companies' communication with the City investment community and their associated stakeholders. The Best online report: AIM/small cap' category award is given to companies that can demonstrate that it has taken the printed report to the next level, using advanced technology to successfully communicate content to its audience and demonstrate how the report has developed since its previous edition covering areas such as its corporate reporting, financial publications or corporate social responsibility report.

Receiving the coveted Silver Award on behalf of TRIFAST was Abi Burnett, Head of Group Marketing: *"Our corporate reporting is ever evolving and focuses on our objective to deliver an informed, innovative and interesting investment proposition both in print and online versions as part of our digital marketing initiatives. It is also motivational for everyone working around the globe to witness the Trifast Group being recognised by external professionals for the work we put into the annual publication which showcases key communications and initiatives we undertake within the investment and social community."*

*"We would also like to acknowledge the assistance we have received from our advisers for supporting us in the delivery of our corporate messaging and helping TR in developing and further enhancing its profile and brand within the investing and commentators community over the years."*

January 2019



### Young triathlete gearing up for 2019 season with support of global manufacturing business

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners headquartered in Uckfield, is again sponsoring successful Sussex triathlete Jamie Bedwell, who is about to start another busy season as he continues on his quest to reach the Paris Olympics in 2024. Despite a serious car accident in 2016 and health problems in 2017 caused by scar tissue, Jamie has never given up his dream of competing for Great British Team.

Jamie gets up to train early in the morning before and after his University commitments whilst he prepares for the 2019 season which will be his second year competing as an U23 competitor in the British series. Still only 20, Jamie began triathlon training at the age of 16 and is now a member of elite club, Bodyworks. In February, Jamie will be joining other squad members at a regional academy training camp in the Algarve, Portugal, for ten days of intensive training in preparation for the season ahead.

TR is one of two sponsors Jamie relies on to help with costs towards his training, competition expenses, kit expenses and equipment. Jamie also works part-time with triathlon specialists 'The Tri Store' in Eastbourne, and is currently completing his final year at the University of Brighton (Eastbourne campus), where he is studying podiatry.

As well as competing at an elite level, Jamie is also determined to use his platform as an athlete to do good, spreading the word about important causes, positive change and taking the opportunity to help others. In September 2019, Jamie will be working with the United Nations on a special campaign aimed to raise awareness of the issue of plastics used in the bike and triathlon industry ending up in our oceans. Jamie hopes to raise awareness of the dangers of using single-use plastics and the need to find alternatives to reduce the industry's impact on the environment.

*Jamie says: "As a triathlete, I train and compete in the sea all the time, so I see first-hand the damage that single-use plastics are doing to our beautiful waters. I am privileged to be in a position where I am becoming known in triathlon and local circles, which means I can help to draw attention to these important issues and hopefully help in the search for a solution."*

The 2019 season begins in April with a swim-free 'Duathlon', before the British Triathlon series kicks off in June with a key event at Blenheim Palace. Jamie will be competing throughout the season across the UK, with standout races in Cardiff, Llanelli, London and Eastbourne. As well as competing for prize funds, Jamie will also be looking to cement his position as an under 23 athlete, on the pathway to Olympic selection for the 2024 games in Paris and the 2028 games in Los Angeles. The first step will be to qualify for the European Cup, which will mean being within the top 5 of his field. After this, the goal will be the World Cup, the World Series, and hopefully on to the Olympic squad.

January 2019



Jamie adds: *"It's a really tough environment out there and there are only three places available on the Olympic squad, so it's certainly a challenging journey ahead of me. However, I am very positive and determined to put my all into my training; for me, having faith and a right mind-set as well as the support of those around me is where my strength lies. I'm very grateful for the team at TR for continuing to sponsor me, they have stayed with me from the beginning and throughout my accident and recovery and I simply couldn't do this without them."*

Abi Burnett, Head of Marketing at TR Fastenings, comments:

*"We have been on this journey with Jamie for four years and it's been incredible to watch his progress. In spite of terrible setbacks and injury, he has always stayed positive and his determination to reach his ultimate goal is inspiring. We are passionate about supporting local businesses and individuals and we are so proud to have the TR logo on Jamie's tri suit for another year: we wish him all the very best for the season ahead."*

February 2019



### Disabled athlete will compete in 2019 shooting season and climb Mount Kilimanjaro in October

TR Fastenings is renewing its sponsorship of Mick Kirby, the Sussex-based clay pigeon shooting champion who has successfully competed in the sport across the globe since overcoming a stroke 12 years ago and subsequently having his left arm amputated in 2015.

Mick is a naturally left-handed shooter and, after the stroke paralysed his left arm, he retrained to shoot with his right arm in 2009, with help from disabled sports charity Sportability. Mick has taken part in both disabled and able-bodied shooting competitions across the UK and internationally with considerable success.

As well as competing, Mick is now established as a referee in the sport, for both able-bodied and disabled competitors. He refereed the British Open in 2018 and will be overseeing a number of events throughout the 2019 season.

In a break from the shooting, Mick undertook a different kind of challenge in September 2018, when he joined the Amputation Foundation charity for a trip to the Calvert Trust adventure centre in the Lake District. For over 40 years, the trust has run adventure and activity camps and holidays for disabled people and their families, offering visitors the chance to challenge their disabilities and take part in activities such as water sports, horse-riding, sailing and hand-biking.

Mick comments: *"At the start of the trip, all of us were a little nervous and sceptical of how many of the activities we'd be able to do as amputees. By the end of a trip, wow, what a difference! Not only was I trying and excelling at things I never thought possible, I also met some friends for life. The whole experience was amazing and one I will never forget."*

### A new challenge for 2019

It is with these new acquaintances and some other less abled friends that Mick is planning his next challenge: to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro in aid of the Amputation Foundation. He has already started training for the trip, which will take place from the 3rd -13th October this year.

### Aiming high

In terms of shooting, Mick is competing in both down the line (DTL) and all around events throughout 2019, including the English and European Open championships. Competing against able-bodied shooters, Mick's aim is to get a medal in a mainstream competition.

TR's support goes towards Mick's training, equipment and travel expenses, in exchange for the company's logo on his shooting jacket.

Abi Burnett, Head of Marketing at TR Fastenings, comments: *"We've been proudly supporting Mick for years now and it's amazing to have witnessed what he's achieved. Constantly pushing himself to do more, Mick always excels in every challenge he takes on, so we are looking forward to witnessing more of his incredible achievements this year."*

March 2019



TR Fastenings Holland is supporting Respo International, an organisation that offers solutions to enable disabled children in developing countries to participate in sports and other activities.

Since 2005, in collaboration with Stichting Dir and Hogeschool Windesheim, Respo International has been conducting sports projects for people with disabilities in Ethiopia. These projects have led to the establishment of the DIRES House of Sport in Addis Ababa. DIRES House of Sport has grown into a private sports centre from where trainers organise weekly sports activities for a network of different schools for children with disabilities.

Patrick Italiaander, Buyer at TR's Holland location comments: *"My cousin, Nino Italiaander, is studying to become a gym teacher and is going to Ethiopia with a group of fellow students to help train disabled young adults to become teachers for the children. This will not only mean that the children will be getting regular exercise but it will also be giving these young adults a career."*

For more information on Respo International and the sports project in Ethiopia visit the website: <http://www.respo.org/>

March 2019



Employees at TR Fastening's headquarters in Uckfield raised over £200 for Comic Relief in a day filled with fun, fundraising and cake on 'Red Nose Day', the 15th March.

The total was raised by selling cakes, red noses and taking part in 'Guess Katherine Ryan's favourite flavour cupcake', an activity devised by the BBC. Eager bakers at TR's Bellbrook Park site concocted a delicious selection of sweet goodies including biscuits, cupcakes and traybakes.

Michelle Horscroft comments: *"This is such a great way to raise money, the office is full of skilled bakers and they outdid themselves whilst raising money for a great cause."*

[Click here](#) to find out more about Comic Relief and to donate.



April 2019



TR Fastenings (TR) is pleased to announce that it will be sponsoring the Little Horsted Fun Run that will take place on Sunday 12th May 2019 just minutes from TR's Headquarters.

This year will mark the event's 10th anniversary, and to celebrate there will be a wide variety of fun filled family activities including face painting, bouncy castle, ice cream van, cakes and much more!

There will also be a professional photographer attending the event, capturing great moments shared throughout the day which will be uploaded to the Little Horsted [Facebook page](#).

Everyone who participates will receive a medal, see below the distances you can sign up for:

- 1km (open to everyone)
- 5km (open to everyone)
- 10km (ages 15+)

Ticket prices are listed below:

- Adult £10
- Child £5
- Family (2 adults & children) £25

All the money raised this year will be used to purchase new equipment for the school.

May 2019



**Rock'n'Roll**  
MARATHON SERIES®

TR's Don Lamb, Strategic Account Manager, who is based in the TR Newton Aycliffe site, is taking on the EDP Rock'n'Roll Madrid Marathon on 27th April to raise money for a very worthy cause.

For over 20 years, the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Series has made running fun by infusing each course with live bands, cheer teams and more. Music plays a core role in each , event, encouraging each runner to have fun, keep going and be part of a great community.

Don is running to support Newburn Sea Cadets, a charity provide opportunities for local children aged 10-18, ranging from first aid skills to studying marine engineering courses. Through these activities, the children can obtain various life skills such as leadership, teamwork and problem solving.

Don comments:

*"I feel that it is really important to invest in our future generations by giving them the opportunity to gain valuable life skills and appreciate the importance of being part of a community. Running a marathon is a massive personal challenge, but it's something I can be very proud of and I'm looking forward to enjoying the music, the atmosphere and raising as much money as I can."*

To read Don's full story and donate, please [click here](#)

May 2019



TR's European Health, Safety and Environmental Manager Jenni Morland and Sales Coordinator Katie Boddy, who are both based at the Newton Aycliffe site, are taking on the Northumberland coast for the Macmillan Mighty Hike in July.

This will be the second time for Jenni and the first time for Katie taking part in the 26 mile challenge which starts at Alnwick and ends at Bamburgh castle. Jenni, Katie and friends are doing the walk to raise money for cancer charity Macmillan in memory of their friend and colleague Linda Woodward.

If you wish to donate, please visit the [Justgiving page](#).

Thank you in advance for your support.



June 2019



TR Fastenings (TR)'s Data Controller, Kevin Gladman, who is based at the headquarters in Uckfield, is taking on the London to Brighton Bike ride, for the British Heart Foundation on the 16th June, covering 54 miles from Clapham Common to Brighton beach.

Kevin comments:

*"It's time for a new challenge, as it has been a while since I have thought about any significant race, let alone 54 miles! This is the second time I will be taking part in the London to Brighton ride, which I first completed, shortly after my father passed away in 2004. With the race being on Father's Day this year it give me chance to think about my father whilst raising the money for a great cause.*

*The last time I was training, I continued to train with a cold and didn't think much about it, next thing I know, I was in hospital suffering from the one thing I was raising money for. At the time there was no clear reasoning, over time they confirmed that I got hit with a rare form of pericarditis, a disease that affects your heart sack, which inflates, presses on the heart and slows your blood flow. 12 months of rest and lots of tests later I am back up and running. I had a long way to go to be even think about a bike ride , I could barely walk up the town without getting out of breath.*

*Things needed to change, I was back in the gym 2 years on and I could feel the strength coming back, in the back of my head all I wanted was to complete the 54 miles, so my aim was to do London to Brighton, 8 months of bike training later and here we are 1 week away.*

*This year I aim to complete the bike ride in 3.5 - 4.5 hours, however, as long as I complete the full course I will be happy with any time."*

June 2019



TR Fastenings are proud to be supporting disabled sportsman Mick Kirby who is taking on his biggest challenge in October this year, by ascending Mount Kilimanjaro.

Mick suffered a severe stroke 12 years ago that led to him having below elbow amputation on his left arm 4 years ago. On this journey, he will be joined with 17 other amputees, his partner Jackie and six other able-bodied friends.

All funds raised for this great adventure will be donated to Limbpower, [Amputation Foundation](#) and [Chailey Heritage Foundation](#).

TR has supported Mick for several years, providing funding for his involvement in a number of sporting activities and challenges, including [clay pigeon shooting](#), in which Mick has enjoyed significant success. Located in Tanzania, near the border with Kenya, Kilimanjaro is the world's tallest free-standing mountain.

It rises 4,065 metres above the plateau, which is located 1,830 metres above sea level. With a total height of 5,895 metres above sea level (AMSL), Kilimanjaro can also call itself Africa's highest mountain.

Mick comments:

*"It's all systems go for the Kilimanjaro climb in October. Training is going well, and I look forward to raising funds for three great charities that are close to my heart, who helped me on my road to recovery. Me and my partner Jackie feel proud to be the only people in Sussex to be training for this."*

If you wish to donate, please visit Mick's [JustGiving page](#).

July 2019



### Annual cricket match will feature Morgan's celebrities versus Newick's first team

TR Fastenings, a proud sponsor of the Newick Cricket Club, is looking forward to a season highlight this coming Sunday, 7th July, when Piers Morgan is hosting his annual family and friends cricket match at the club. The event will pit Morgan's team of celebrities and cricket legends against the Newick first XI and will take place at Newick's King George V playing fields from 1:30 pm.

This year promises to be another fun day out with Piers inviting his usual collection of high-profile international cricketers (including Kevin Pietersen, Michael Vaughan and Chris Gayle) and other celebrities to take part in the event.

David Strachan, Chairman of Newick Cricket Club Comments: *"Our annual fixture against Piers Morgan's XI is always a crowd favourite and a fixture that, as a club, we are very fortunate to have. There will be a mini food village offering a variety of different fare, alongside our usual BBQ, Club bar, Pimm's and much more including face painting for our younger audience.*

*We are hoping that the weather is kind to us and look forward to welcoming you all to such a great event!"*

TR's Geoff Budd, European MD, comments: *"TR Fastenings is very proud to be a sponsor of Newick Cricket Club and we always look forward to the Piers Morgan game, that always attracts large crowds. It's great for people to meet their cricketing idols and we look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday!"*

Keep up to date with the event and find out more information by following the Newick Cricket Club social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter – @NewickCC](#)

July 2019



On 16th June, TR's Kevin Gladman, Data Controller, based at the headquarters in Uckfield, completed the London to Brighton British Heart Foundation Bike Ride in an impressive 5 and a half hours, with the average time being anything ranging from 6 – 10 hours, raising a grand total of £208.

It was a bright and early start as Kevin headed to London at 6:30 am in plenty of time to set off at 8:30 am.

He comments:

*"Most of the ride was overcast and threatening to rain and, within the first 5 miles I saw 3 people come off the road with chain issues and flat tires. After the first long uphill stretch the heavens opened – at that point, the ride started to become real. The rain didn't let up for over 3 hours. Lucky me... yes, I had no rain jacket! This was going to be a hard day, switching from hot baking sun to pouring rain!"*

*I faced a lot of challenges throughout the ride, but due to the determined team spirit everyone felt motivated to carry on. The ride featured some tough challenges, such as the Ditchling Beacon climb which is 1.55 km long, with an average gradient of 8.7 %!*

*I felt a sense of reassurance when I'd reached the Beacon as I knew that it was downhill 7 miles back to Brighton. From there it was a satisfying race for the finish.*

*I am really proud of our achievements and am looking forward to setting myself personal targets for next year."*

July 2019



TR Fastenings (TR) is hosting the 17th Uckfield Mini Grand Prix featuring over 250 local schoolchildren in its car park on Sunday 14th July 2019 from 11am-3.30pm. Organised jointly by the Uckfield Rotary Club and Uckfield College, it is a major highlight of the Uckfield Festival which is running from the 6th-14th July.

The competition, which was first held at TR in 2003, will pit 250 year 5 and 6 students from various local schools against each other in 22 teams. This is the only race in the UK to feature kit cars being driven side by side by children in a grand prix style competition. Just like in professional Formula 1 racing, the teams will consist of drivers, pit crews, mechanics and supporters.

### The Cars

The 24 volt electric-powered Greenpower Goblin kit cars, which have a top speed of 15 mph, must be built from scratch by the pupils themselves and use over 100 parts. The event aims to engage students in engineering and teach them a range of important skills, from mechanical knowledge to team building, marketing and design.

Also similarly to Formula 1, style is 'almost' as important as performance and the students have the ability to showcase their artistic talent by painting the cars any way they please. The students choose a theme around which the car is decorated and there is an additional prize for the best themed team.

### The Race

Four teams compete against each other per race, with sharp Le Man styled driver change overs. Races consist of 12 laps with six drivers who swap over after 2 laps each. This pit stop change is a highlight of the race and usually decides between the winning team and the runners-up. All teams race in 2 qualifying heats and a final to determine their ultimate rankings.

All cars will be fitted with on-board sensors for recording lap-times and are connected via a live feed to the event website to showcase race results.

With over 1000 spectators expected, it is a fun family occasion that showcases the pupils' engineering prowess and racing skills. There will also be a food area on site serving hot food, drinks and ice cream.

Geoff Budd, Director at TR Fastenings, comments: *"The Uckfield Mini Grand Prix is a fantastic local event and one which we really enjoy hosting each year. The young people who take part are all potential engineers of the future and we love being able to play a part in helping them to hone their skills. Good luck to all teams!"*

July 2019



A record-breaking turnout of an estimated 2,500 - 3,000 people returned to the King George V playing field in Newick on Sunday 7th July for the annual Piers Morgan family day at Newick Cricket Club, where he is a member.

The former newspaper editor and TV presenter, his team of family, friends and celebrities, including; Chris Gayle, Michael Vaughan and Kevin Pieterston, played two matches against the Club that is proudly sponsored by TR Fastenings.

Miss World Vanessa Ponce accepted the invitation to do the coin toss between George Read (Newick skipper) and Piers Morgan, the toss being won by Newick who opted to field first.

Chris Gayle and Michael Vaughan opened the batting; however, Chris Gayle was caught out by George Read on the boundary scoring only 6 runs. Michael Vaughan was bowled out by Newick's opening bowler Scott Warren after scoring 11 runs. Kevin Pieterston didn't stay at the crease very long only scoring 2 runs before he was also bowled by Scott Warren. Piers Morgan was the top scorer for his side with a staggering 18 runs resulting in his side finishing their 20 overs with a total of 110 runs.

Newick managed to convince fellow villager and Sussex 20/20 star, Luke Wright to play for them. This turned out to be costly for Piers' team as Luke went on to score 47. Newick only lost 3 wickets and passed the score in the 14th over.

Legendary cricket commentator Henry Blowfeld was commentating over the PA system for the game which made the day better than anyone could have expected.

David Strachan, Chairman of Newick Cricket Club Comments: *"Our 1st team were really fired up especially when faced with the elite of the modern game and in the end came out winners by a considerable margin. I have to say the person who had the biggest smile on his face was Scott Warren who bowled both Michael Vaughan and Kevin Peterson! Another notable moment was George Read's steeple catch on the long on boundary to dismiss Chris Gayle. We all had a great day and thank everyone who came along to watch."*

August 2019



TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fasteners, has renewed its support of a Formula Student motorsport team from Sweden for the third consecutive year. The team will be driving and competing in electric cars they have designed and built themselves at the Italian Riccardo Paletti circuit from the 24th-28th July and the iconic Hockenheim ring track in Germany from 5th – 11th August.

The team consists of mechanical design and engineering students from Stockholm's highly regarded KTH Royal Institute of Technology. Each year, the college submits a team to compete in Formula Student, Europe's most established educational motorsport contest. As well as actually driving the car in competitions across Europe, the students have to research, design, engineer and build the electric vehicles themselves.

### The Formula Student challenge

Formula Student (FS), run by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, is a global competition which aims to develop enterprising and innovative young engineers and encourage more young people to take up a career in engineering. The challenge tests students' abilities to research, manufacture, test and deliver a complex and integrated product in the deadline-driven environment of motorsport and comply with a rigorous 130 page rule book. Participation in the competition is viewed by the motorsport industry as a standard-mark for real-world engineering experience, helping students transition from university to a workplace environment.

In July, the team will head to the Riccardo Paletti circuit in Italy for the FS Electric contest, and in August, they head to the famous Hockenheim ring in Germany for the driverless electric car competition.

### TR Fastenings support

TR Fastening's Sweden office agreed to support the KTH entry with a free supply of components and technical consultancy in 2017 and has continued to support the KTH teams every year since. One Formula Student alumnus from KTH, Patrik Ringdahl, now works at TR Sweden following his introduction to the business via the project in 2017.

KTH students, along with their electric car, joined the TR team in March this year at their stand at Automotive Engineering, part of the Advanced Engineering Show in Gothenburg. The car and the students proved to be a very successful pull for visitors to the stand, where students and TR engineers answered questions about the car, the parts used and the Formula Student scheme.

Patrik Ringdahl, from TR Sweden, comments: *"As a former KTH student and member of the Formula Student programme, I am fully aware of the huge benefits I gained from taking part in the scheme. The opportunity to use high quality fasteners from TR and also to benefit from the TR engineers' experience, knowledge and expertise was invaluable and inspired me to join the business myself. It's fantastic that TR continues to support KTH and champion young engineering talent."*

# TR Press Release

## TR proud to encourage young talent by sponsoring Uckfield FM Community Awards 2019



August 2019



TR Fastenings is proud to again be supporting the Uckfield FM Community Awards by sponsoring the Young Person of the Year Award.

This award will recognise a young person (under 18) who has shown bravery in overcoming adversity or who has excelled and demonstrates a huge personal achievement.

The Uckfield FM Community Awards will recognise the amazing work and commitment people in the local community are achieving. The ceremony is being held at the East Sussex National on Friday 8th November, tickets will be available soon.

Nominations close on the 31st August, visit the following website for further information: <http://www.uckfieldfm.co.uk/2019/features/uckfield-fm-community-awards/>

Luke Murphy, UK HR Manager comments:

*"As a company we believe in recognising young talent and are so pleased to be able to sponsor this award again. We are looking forward to seeing who is crowned the winner on the 8th November."*

# TR Press Release

Update: Mick Kirby fundraising going well with £4K already raised!

August 2019



TR is proud to be supporting disabled sportsman Mick Kirby who is taking on his biggest challenge in October this year, by ascending Mount Kilimanjaro along with 15 other amputees and a few supporters.

[The Pig and Butcher](#) in Five Ash Down, East Sussex, will be holding an event from Noon on Saturday 24th August to help raise awareness and money for [LimbPower](#) and [Amputation Foundation](#), charities Mick has received support from in the past. The event will include a BBQ, live music, a raffle and much more!

Mick has raised an impressive £4,000 already, nearly half way to reaching his target.

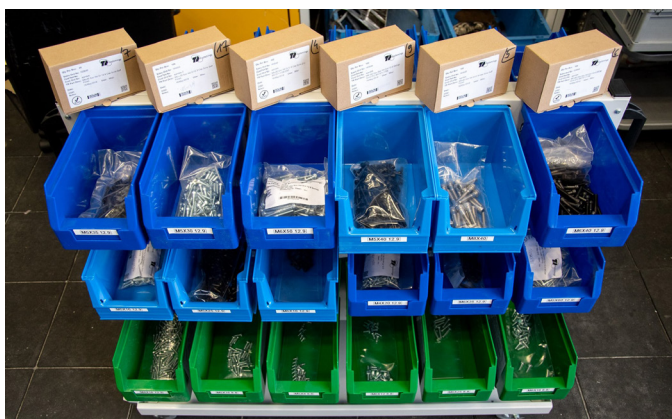
Click here to read his story and donate on his [JustGiving page](#).

September 2019



TR Fastenings Hungary, is providing technical and product support to Hungarian racing team, Arrabona Racing.

Arrabona Racing started in 2014, supporting and encouraging students to produce, design and manufacture single seated race cars and compete against each other in several events. The engineers involved in this great project have finished studying at the Technical University in Győr and are embarking on the project to hone their technical and engineering skills.



TR Hungary has supported the engineers with fasteners for the car, which the team will enter into several races across Europe in 2019-20. So far, the team has placed third out of 52 teams in Hungary and is now continuing its journey across Germany and the Czech Republic.

Zoltan Csengeri, Operations Manager in TR Hungary comments:

*"It is great to support young engineers as they embark upon their careers; the team have made a fantastic car and we are proud to say that most of the fasteners you can see in the pictures have been supplied by TR Hungary. It's great to see the TR logo on the car and we wish the team every success for the coming season."*

September 2019



TR Fastenings is proud to renew its sponsorship of Buxted Football Club, who were established over 100 years ago in 1918.

Since the launch of the team they have gone from strength to strength and have in the past had four senior teams running in various divisions across the Mid Sussex Football League.

Currently Buxted FC has two senior teams playing in Mid Sussex Division 1 and 4 and is in the process of putting together a women's football team that will be entering a competitive league next year.

Buxted Football Club comments: *"We would like to thank TR for its continued support, without the help of local sponsorship the club wouldn't be where it is today."*

Find out more [here](#).

# TR Press Release

## TR's Hayley Neilly takes on the Three Peaks Challenge with just days' notice!



October 2019



TR Fastenings (TR)'s Transactional Sales Co-ordinator, Hayley Neilly, who is based at the headquarters in Uckfield, walked the Three Peaks in North Yorkshire with just days' notice!

Hayley walked 24 miles to raise money for [Raystead Centre for Animal Welfare](#), based 10 minutes from TR's headquarters.

She comments:

*"Last week I had a crazy moment and decided at very short notice to join 18 other people and walk the Three Peaks in North Yorkshire.*

*With no training and walking boots I had bought the day before, I set off to Hawes, North Yorkshire not knowing anyone or even knowing really what it was all about! All I knew is that Raystead needed me.*

*I got up at 5.15am on Saturday 7th of September and got ready to walk Yorkshire's Three Peaks (Ingleborough 724m, Pen-y-ghent 694m and Wharfedale 736m). Our goal was to do this in 12 hours!*

*After roughly 12 hours I completed the challenge! I met some great people along the way who I have now forged a special friendship with, each gave me the encouragement and motivation that I needed to help me finish and succeed. People as well as animals are magic!*

*Please take a minute to donate if you can no matter how small. None of us know what's around the corner and when we might need a charity like Raystead to help."*

If you wish to donate, please visit [Hayley's Just Giving page](#)

# TR Press Release

## TR Uckfield finds fundraising a piece of cake for Macmillan Coffee Morning 2019

October 2019



Employees at TR Fastenings's headquarters in Uckfield, raised an impressive £272.78 for [Macmillan Cancer Support](#) on the 27th September.

This year Uckfield reached a personal best as cakes flew off plates, thanks to the all the skilled bakers!

By donating £250 this could pay for five people living with cancer to attend a health and wellbeing event that supports people before, during and after cancer diagnosis and treatment(s), providing skills to improve the management of these aspects in their lives for example their family, friends and transition through their journey. The event brings together a variety of service providers from health, social, community and voluntary sectors. With its main aims being to provide information, signpost attendees to local resources e.g. charities (both clinical and non-clinical) and to facilitate interaction with other people affected by cancer.

TR's Michelle Horscroft, Location Head, based at the headquarters in Uckfield, Comments:

*"A massive thank you to all the staff who baked and donated to such a great charity that supports so many people. We are really pleased to have been able to donate over £270, yet another amazing year of cake selling! We believe fundraising is a great way to help increase awareness and we all look forward to next year's event"*

Click [here](#) to donate to Macmillan.

October 2019



Uckfield Grasshoppers JFC (Junior Football Club) a local football club that TR Fastenings proudly sponsors, has received the award for Sussex County FA Grassroots Club of the Year.

The team pride themselves on the way that they coach the children in the team to fully understand the values of respect and inclusion. They offer football for all and have built links with the County FA disability group to ensure players get the mainstream football they need to develop. As well as regular weekly training sessions and matches, they run a Friday Night Futsal (a game similar to football played indoors and only 5-a-side), that is available for all ages. The club believes members should take part in as many opportunities as possible, enabling individuals to grow and to develop their knowledge and gain experience in various football formats.

The club believe players want to join because of the environment that has been created and continues to be developed each season with mentoring, coach education, youth council, their coaching standards, ethos and philosophy.

New respect policies, barriers and education tools have been implemented and the team is proud to be recognised as a Charter Standard Development Club. They embarked on their second season of wildcats in the spring, in the hope of inspiring the next batch of Lionesses.

The Uckfield Grasshoppers team Comment:

*"We are so proud as a club to have received this award, from a young age we teach the children our three core beliefs to remember when playing, these are: play safe, have fun and show respect. Receiving this award is a great reflection of these beliefs being put into play when on and off the pitch."*

Paul Standing, Branded Products Commercial Manager at TR Fastenings and Vice-Chairman at Uckfield Grasshoppers Comments:

*"The Uckfield Grasshoppers were honoured to be a part of a great evening held at the Amex Stadium in Brighton, where they were presented the award for Sussex County FA Grassroots Club of the Year."*

*"We are still the biggest community football group in Uckfield for children and are now springing further afield attracting players from other towns and clubs."*

# TR Press Release

Lancaster Fastener is proud to support Sydney Terry who has been Slalom Racing for over 18 months



October 2019



Lancaster Fastener Co Ltd, part of the Trifast plc group of companies, is proud to support Sydney Terry who has been Slalom Racing for over 18 months and has competed throughout the UK for Pendle Race Squad, based in the North West of England.

Sydney's recent participation at the International Lowland Championships in the Netherlands has further cemented her determination to represent Great Britain at future Winter Olympics.

Continuing her journey, Sydney is about to travel with the Excel Race Academy to Austria to train with some of the best FIS instructors ahead of the English Alpine Championships in Bormio, Italy, February 2020.

*"We would like to congratulate Sydney on her continuing success and wish her all the best for the future."*

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings Uckfield have MO' to give as they raise money for Movember!



November 2019



Employees at TR Fastening's headquarters in Uckfield, are taking part in Movember, to help raise awareness and money for the leading charity tackling men's health on a global scale. The charity along with their 'Mo Bros' and 'Mo Sistas' across the world stand for; tackling prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention.

Last year Movember raised an impressive £57.6 million! The TR team are looking forward to contributing to a great cause this year.

[Click here](#) to donate to TR's Movember page.

November 2019



TR Fastenings would like to congratulate Edward Osborne who was crowned the 2019 'Young Employee of the Year' (awarded for showing bravery in overcoming adversity or excelling and demonstrating a huge personal achievement) at this year's [Uckfield Community Awards](#).

This year's event was held at the East Sussex National on the 8th November, where the amazing work done by people in the local community was recognised and awarded.

Luke Murphy, UK HR Manager at TR Fastenings, comments:

*'We were delighted to be able to continue our sponsorship of the Young Person of the Year Award. Once again it proved to be a very difficult decision to make, with several exceptional nominees. Many congratulations to Edward Osborne who was our deserved winner on the night.'*

*Edward received multiple nominations and is clearly a very supportive and helpful member of the Newick community. Well done Edward, keep it up!'*

[Click here](#) to watch a video of the Community Awards celebrations.

December 2019



### Young triathlete gearing up for 2019 season with support of global manufacturing business

The 2019 season was Jamie's 2nd season competing as a senior athlete on the British Triathlon circuit. Starting the year by putting in an encouraging performance at the annual Chichester 10km road race and achieving a personal best of 33 minutes and 53 seconds, which took him by surprise, as he had very little consistent training behind him, however, this showed an insight into what he is capable of.

Having battled through another injury-struck winter off-season, Jamie went on to compete at the British Duathlon Championships. Beginning the race at a steady pace, going through the first 5km in 16 minutes and 21 seconds before completing the 20km bike section and a further 5km run to complete the race. Finishing in 21st position, this was a performance that involved a lot of tactics including going head to head with a teammate.

After the British Duathlon Championships, Jamie only had a few weeks before his next competition. During this time, he was also completing his Podiatry studies at the University of Brighton and preparing to take his finals. Trying to find the balance between studying, training and part-time work was proving to be very challenging, meaning that Jamie's next two races in Llanelli, Wales and Blenheim Palace both proved to be frustrating.

He comments: *"I was aware that I wasn't performing to the best of my ability and was unsure how to overcome this plateau. I believe my next competition held in Cardiff was a turning point in the season. Left to battle the race on my own after the first 200m of the swim, I chose to complete the race the best I could with no regard to times, positions or anyone's opinion on my performance. I could have easily pulled out of the race that day but choosing to finish the best I could was an important stepping stone for what's to come. Whilst seasons like this year don't offer much, the experience, knowledge and enjoyment that I have taken from it is what provides the solid platform to my development."*

The 5th round of British series was held in Parc Brynn Bach on the 4th August, and acted as the Senior European Championship Qualifier. From the start Jamie was ready to put behind him the performances that had so far overshadowed the season.

Jamie comments: *"After my strongest swim so far, I put myself in a competitive position in the field and with a bike course that included 5 laps of brutal climbing and tricky, technical descents, I continued to progress positions. Finishing the race with a 16:53 5km run helped me to finish as 13th senior in a highly competitive field and finally producing a performance that I felt better represented my potential."* Jamie's final race of the season was at Mallory Park racing circuit in Leicestershire.

*"The race got off to a bad start when I couldn't hear the referee, meaning I was left to react to what was going on around me. A decent swim put me into contention, but as I mounted my bike my right foot slipped, snapping my elastic band; the gap proved too big of a task for me to be able to make-up and was only made worse. I was caught out by the approaching dismount line at the end of the bike race and picked up a 15 second time penalty."*

December 2019



*The run was a positive to take from the race, having ridden the bike completely solo, I finished the 5km run with a time of 16 minutes and 3 seconds and took my time penalty just before the finish line. Not the end of season result I had been hoping for but an experience none the less!"*

It's important to note that a competitive future in Triathlon is one that takes patience. Commonly looked at as a 10-year cycle to the top, Jamie is now approaching the halfway mark, having started from scratch with no background in swimming, cycling or running. It takes years to master swim technique, endurance in the saddle and experience to race smart and fast, because of this, Jamie is fully committed to the process having made a host of big decisions so far to stay rooted in his club with coaches that he trusts can take him all the way.

It has been a busy year for Jamie, as well as competing in many races and ensuring he is doing the relevant training required, he has recently graduated from his degree in Podiatry and now works as a Podiatrist for the NHS, providing care across the county of East Sussex.

Something else Jamie is passionate about is the campaign he has been running, Genesis215, with the aim to reduce the use of single-use packaging in the Cycling and Triathlon industries, working currently alongside UK United Nations Association (London & South East Region) as well as Sky Ocean Rescue. This campaign not only raises awareness to the issue concerning the packaging that's used to protect bikes and clothing, but also works with companies to find a more sustainable solution.

You can follow the @Gen215Campaign on social media, and see regular updates including Jamie speaking at climate and environmental events about its progress.

*Jamie Comments: "I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to TR Fastenings for their continued support. There are various costs related to Triathlon including training, kit, travelling, race entries, training camps and much more, but with this support I can manage this obstacle.*

*Now back into training, enjoying the balance of early morning swim starts and late evening sessions, whilst my new job fills the working day. I look forward to the cross-country season that begins in November.*

*Looking ahead to the 2020 season, I will again be competing in the British Triathlon Series, as well as this I will compete in other events such as the Eastbourne triathlon, the British Series offers the most competitive races in the country and also paves the way to qualification for elite European and World cup events."*

**You can follow Jamie's journey on social media @Jbtriathlete where he posts regular updates on races, training and life events or contact him at: [Jbedwell7@live.co.uk](mailto:Jbedwell7@live.co.uk).**

December 2019



The TR team in the USA are donating to the charity, established in 1947, that collects new toys to be distributed to the less fortunate at Christmas. The charity has distributed an impressive 566 million toys to date, supporting 258 million children.

When you donate to Toys for Tots, you are helping to assist children up to the age of 12, but in many local communities the age limit may have had to be extended, items they are happy to receive range from hair accessories to cameras!

Where over 97% of donations go straight to providing toys, books and any other donations, the remaining 3% is spent on supporting other fundraising expenses, these donations are vital especially over the festive period.

Matt Wygle, Warehouse Lead at TR Fastenings Inc comments:

*"I am so pleased that we are able to donate to such a rewarding charity, it's great to know that our contributions will go some way to helping others who are in need, especially at Christmas time."*

Visit the Toys for Tots website [here](#).

December 2019



Employees at TR Scotland have shown continued support to local charities for another year this Christmas time.

The donations to these drives started early last year, as a result of discussions held by the site's 'Continuous Improvement Team', who meet every two months to discuss ideas to improve culture, team work and the office environment.

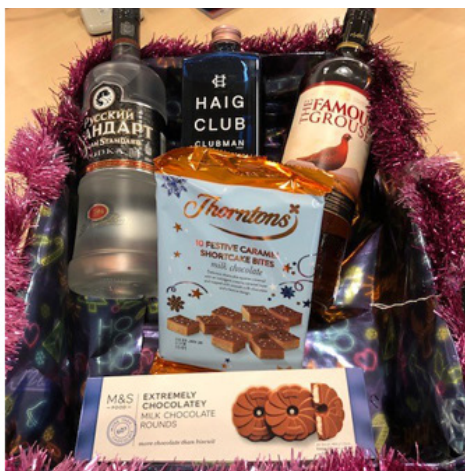
Lorraine Smith, who is part of the Continual Improvement Team at TR Scotland, comments:

*"The TR Scotland team are so pleased to be able to have donated to such a rewarding charity again this year, unfortunately the boxes are needed more and more, as year after year the amount of underprivileged children who need support from these charities is on the rise.*

*We are extremely passionate about supporting our local community. We all believe that it's important to give back where and when we can, especially at this time of year.*

*I would like to thank the team for their generosity, resulting in a lot to donate, these donations were so greatly received by the church, they couldn't thank us enough!"*

December 2019



On Friday 13th December, the TR Scotland team took part in Christmas Jumper Day raising over £270 for Save The Children; a charity that was launched in 2012 and that now supports over 100 countries, including the UK.

The total was generated through various activities such as a Christmas gift stall, grand prize raffle, guess the number of sweets in the jar and a delicious cake sale!

Irene Revie, Sales Team Leader comments:

*"I am so delighted that the employees at TR Scotland were able to donate this impressive amount to the charity, Save The Children.*

*I would like to thank everyone who participated and helped us reach our total, the team did an amazing job taking part in all the fun activities we had set up for our Christmas jumper fundraising day. "*

December 2019



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*Darren Baldwin*



*Guy Dalleywater*



*Jack Stevenson*



*Jack Wright*



*Jason Gibbs*



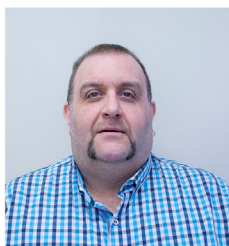
*Nathan Wheeler*



*Paul Standing*



*Sean Fuller*



*Wayne Rosser*

December 2019



TR Fastenings is proud to support disabled sportsman Mick Kirby who took on his biggest challenge to date in October this year, ascending Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for charity.

Mick and his partner raised an incredible £9,000, making them the highest fundraisers in the group that took part in the climb. All of the money raised from this adventure has been donated to Limbpower and Amputation Foundation, both charities that are close to Micks heart.

He comments:

*"It is an understatement to say this was an experience, we all knew that it was going to be a challenge, however, it is something I would consider doing again!"*

*I was very proud to see two amputees reach the summit. After climbing over half way, sadly I, along with 4 others, decided we should not continue, I underestimated the amount of dust which suddenly hit my chest. Despite this, it was still a challenge to get back down, we had to trek 18K over rocks and uneven ground."*

TR Fastenings would like to congratulate Mick for taking on such a huge challenge and for raising an incredible amount for his 3 chosen charities.

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings North East donates to local Foodbank at Christmas



December 2019



Staff at TR North East have donated food and toiletries to supply to the St Clare's Church Foodbank in Newton Aycliffe.

Durham Food Bank provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. They are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings Inc putt their skills to the test in a tee-rific charity golf match



January 2020



TR Fastenings Inc was invited by Yanfeng Global Automotive Interiors to take part in the 21st Annual Plymouth Community United Way [‘Tee Off For A Friend Golf Classic and Dinner’](#) on the 15th August 2019, held at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

The TR team were playing alongside the Yanfeng team:

- Kellie Smolenski, Commodity Manager (Metals)
- Kyle Riendl, Direct Buyer (Metals)
- Rachel Maxheimer, Metals Buyer
- Kris Warren, Senior Buyer (Metals)

The TR team consisted of:

- Jeremy Scholefield, Director of Strategic Business Electronic Sector
- Brad Allen, Business Development Manager
- Joe Haymes, Strategic Sales Manager
- Jose Vera, Business Development Manager

### Plymouth Community United Way

The organisation works to address the basic human needs of the residents of Plymouth, Canton and Western Wayne. Advancing the common good is less about helping one person at a time and more about changing systems to better serve us all.

Plymouth Community United Way's work is focused on the building blocks for a good life:

Basic Needs - Supporting food pantries, providing emergency assistance

Health & Stability - Connecting families to resources to enable greater independence

Education - Helping children and youth achieve their potential

PCUW's goal is to create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of these problems. Living united means being a part of the change. It takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future.

Joe Haymes, Strategic Sales Manager at TR Fastenings Comments:

*"The TR team had a great day and would like to thank Yanfeng for giving us the opportunity to help raise funds for a very worthy cause."*

January 2020



On Saturday 30th December staff from TR Kuhlmann held a chess event, that was organised with local registered association [Mint-Technikum](#) (Mathematics, Computer Studies, Natural Sciences, Technology), who have created a meeting centre for children and young adults to awaken an interest in science and technology from an early age.

The centre offers both children and young adults the chance to experiment, design and build. This enables them to share their interests and ideas and to work together and collaborate on development and research projects, through this they are challenged through a wide variety of tasks.

There are "MINT experts" who are available to assist the young researchers to implement their own designs, this means that interest and innovation is generated and introduced early. Until now there has not been an available facility in the region, where young people can experience, partake and design technology outside of school.

Peter Henning, Managing Director at TR Kuhlmann Comments:

*"Everyone had a brilliant day, thank you to all who took part!"*

*The children who participated were extremely motivated and produced their own chessboard a few weeks prior to the event and we helped them to finalize their creations on the day. It was great to see such a variety in each design and we even had chess pieces made from fasteners!"*

January 2020



Helen Toole, Group HR Director and Luke Murphy, UK HR Manager based at TR's headquarters in Uckfield, have partnered with the local college and will work with them to provide support as Enterprise Advisers.

Enterprise Advisers are being partnered with local schools and colleges to become part of an influential nationwide structure of outstanding business volunteers, who can present knowledge of their sector and how it fits in to a local and far reaching business community.

Launched in 2015 by [Skills East Sussex](#), the [East Sussex Enterprise Adviser Network](#) is funded by the [Careers & Enterprise Company](#) and [East Sussex County Council](#), meaning this is a component of an increasing nationwide network.

In the UK, there are over 1,300 schools and colleges being supported with arrangements in place to grow this figure. Organisers are hopeful as partnerships increase and evolve that this will mean business and school linked activities will improve, resulting in long-term goals being met.

Striving to accomplish East Sussex County Council's Employability and Skills strategy, businesses from priority growth areas e.g. construction, creative & digital, engineering and lots more, are being matched with secondary, further education and sixth form colleges to rekindle their business and education links.

As Enterprise Advisers, Luke and Helen will help to develop an employment engagement strategy, in which they are able to help Uckfield College to engage their students with local businesses and aim to have a long lasting worthwhile impact to be able to support locally whilst making a difference.

By helping Uckfield College evolve with an Enterprise and Employer Engagement plan, consisting of activities and advice that publicises career paths and employability skills, they will recognise their preferred fields and be able to support other advisers involved in the network, to share ideas and best practice. Once this is completed, it is evaluated by county councils and schools.

Luke Murphy Comments:

*"It is so great to be able to be part of this network, to know that the work me and Helen will be providing will be able to have a positive impact on young adults, by creating long term careers advice and guidance."*

# TR Press Release

## TR taking a stand at Southern Manufacturing and Electronics 2019



January 2019



Stand L70, 5th -7th February 2019, Farnborough, UK

TR Fastenings, global specialist in the engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners will be exhibiting at Southern Manufacturing & Electronics 2019, which takes place from the 5th to the 7th February 2019 at the Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre.

Southern Manufacturing and Electronics is 'the most comprehensive annual industrial exhibition in the UK', showcasing expertise, technology and innovations in machinery, production, electronics and components across a wide range of industrial sectors throughout Europe. There is also a large focus on assembly, tooling and subcontract services at the show.

TR engineers, manufactures and distributes industrial fasteners to OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers in sectors ranging from automotive, electronics and domestic appliances, supplying more than 60 billion components annually to over 5,000 companies across 60 countries.

Manufacturing and engineering plays a central role in TR's global operations and the firm's 31 worldwide sites include eight manufacturing plants equipped with the latest technologies and facilities to cater for every customer's needs. The continued investment in equipment, resources and skills in these facilities enables the development of innovative fastening solutions, such as the newly launched TR patented EPW screw, a self-extruding thread-forming screw designed for use in thin sheet metal. TR also supports emerging sectors such as Electric Vehicle (EV) charging, with its combination of fastener product ranges and industry knowledge and expertise.

At Southern Manufacturing, TR will be exhibiting a full range of industrial fasteners, including its own branded fasteners for sheet metal, enclosure hardware, fasteners for plastic, security fasteners, and plastic hardware, as well as special fasteners designed and manufactured to customer drawings. The EPW screw will also be on display at the show, with TR engineers on hand to talk through its applications and benefits.

TR will be joined on its stand by representatives from Nord-Lock, the global manufacturer of washers and bolting solutions. As a supplier to TR, the two companies work closely together and sharing a stand at the show allows them the opportunity to demonstrate their added value to potential customers and partners.

Kevin de Stadler, UK & Ireland Sales Director at TR Fastenings, comments:

*"The chance to discuss our products and services with potential customers is always valuable and Southern Manufacturing will give us a great opportunity to meet with representatives from multiple industries across Europe to share our expertise and demonstrate the breadth of our product range."*

*"The fact that the show covers such a large variety of sectors, disciplines and specialities means we can not only reach a wider audience but also partake in conversations about the issues and market conditions affecting each aspect of the manufacturing industry."*

January 2019



TR Fastenings, the global specialist in the engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners, has been recognised for its excellence and experience in supporting the automotive manufacturing industry. Chris Black, TR's global sales director of automotive business development, was selected to sit on a panel of automotive business leaders at an event hosted by the Voice of Automotive Business (VOB) in Coventry, to discuss automotive business expansion into Europe.

The Automotive Supply Chain Roadshow, hosted by VOB founder, Christopher Plant, was held on the 22nd November in Coventry as part of the 2018 Coventry & Warwickshire Business Festival. The aim of the event was to inform delegates of the specific opportunities for automotive businesses and manufacturers in the Central & Eastern European (CEE) region.

As a well-established member of the UK Automotive manufacturing industry, TR, and Chris Black in particular, was invited to sit on the event's 'Automotive and British Business Expert Panel', to discuss the benefits and complexities involved in expanding business into the CEE and Slovakia. The panel also included representatives from Grant Thornton and the VOB as well as other automotive industry leaders.

As TR Fastenings were Strategic Partners and sponsors of the event, Chris was provided the opportunity to present to over 100 delegates on TR's manufacturing capabilities, global footprint and product range.

Also attending the event were Simon Willington and Sven Brehler from TR's global engineering team, and Global Logistics Manager Phil Callaghan, to represent TR's recent logistics expansion into Slovakia. In addition, TR's strategic manager for Slovakia, Katarina Kachmanova, was on hand to observe delegates' reactions to and questions about discussions around expansion into the region.

Chris Black comments:

*"CEE is a rapidly growing market for business of all types, due to the benefits it offers in terms of cost, geographical location and its position within the larger global distribution network. In particular, there is vast opportunity for automotive businesses to gain from expansion into the region."*

*"The Roadshow panel was a fantastic platform for those of us in the industry to share experiences and insights on this issue, and it was fascinating to hear the thoughts and questions from delegates as well. I was honoured to be invited to join the panel of speakers and pleased to be able to share TR's expertise and strong offering in Automotive in the CEE region."*

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings to showcase enhanced product range and growing distributor network at Fastener Fair Stuttgart 2019



January 2019



19-21st March 2019, Stuttgart Exhibition Grounds. TR Stand 830 – Hall 1

TR Fastenings (TR), the global engineer, manufacturer and distributor of industrial fasteners, will be exhibiting its complete range of products at Fastener Fair Stuttgart in March 2019. In addition, TR's sales and technical teams will be on hand to discuss the company's complete support service to customers and its rapidly growing distributor programme in Europe. FF Stuttgart is one of the standout events in the global fastener and fixing calendar and will play host to over 900 exhibitors from 40 countries in 2019.

### Experts in manufacturing and engineering

TR engineers, manufactures and distributes industrial fasteners to OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers in sectors ranging from automotive, electronics and domestic appliances, supplying more than 60 billion components annually to over 5,000 companies across 60 countries.

Manufacturing and engineering plays a central role in TR's global operations and the firm's 31 worldwide sites include eight manufacturing plants equipped with the latest technologies and facilities to cater for every customer's needs. The continued investment in equipment, resources and skills in these facilities enables the development of innovative fastening solutions, such as the newly launched TR patented EPW screw, a self-extruding thread-forming screw designed for use in thin sheet metal. TR also supports emerging sectors such as Electric Vehicle (EV) charging, with its combination of fastener product ranges and industry knowledge and expertise.

At FF Stuttgart, TR will be exhibiting its full range of industrial fasteners, including its own branded fasteners for sheet metal, enclosure hardware, fasteners for plastic, security fasteners, and plastic hardware, as well as special fasteners designed and manufactured to customer drawings. The EPW screw will also be on display at the show, with TR engineers on hand to talk through its applications and benefits.

### Rapidly growing distributor network

TR's prestigious and continuously expanding distributor network means it has enhanced logistics capabilities throughout Europe, with new partners being added on an ongoing basis. This network means TR can distribute products out to market quickly, shipping rapidly from the UK to a growing number of European Master Distributor locations.

The positive and collaborative relationship TR has with all of its Master Distributors is something TR is extremely proud of. Adam John, European Distribution Sales Manager, comments: *"Distributors now account for a significant share of TR's total global business and we recognise the hugely important role they play in allowing our product to reach locations and markets that would not be possible without their support, commitment and loyalty."*

*"Fastener Fair Stuttgart is one of the highlights of the year for the fastener industry and is a great opportunity for us to meet with current partners, distributors and end-users, as well as building new relationships and discussing the merits of our combined expertise in manufacture, engineering and distribution."*

February 2019



Stand B20, Automotive Engineering hall, Advanced Engineering, Gothenburg, 27-28 March 2019

TR Fastenings Ltd (TR), the international specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fastenings, is exhibiting in the 'Automotive Engineering' hall of Advanced Engineering 2019.

Celebrated as Sweden's most advanced showcase of industrial engineering, the show takes place from 27th-28th March at the Åbymässan venue in Gothenburg. TR's involvement in the event follows the opening of its Technical and Innovation centre in Gothenburg in May 2018, based in the Lindholmen Science Park, a national centre of excellence for automotive innovation. From major OEM firms and IT software developers to technical and engineering teams from Tier 1 manufacturers, Lindholmen is fast becoming a hub for automotive innovation in Europe.

TR, owned by Trifast Plc, is a full service provider to the automotive industry, supplying and distributing fastener products to the Tier 1 market. TR's global reach now extends to 31 sites, since the launch of the Gothenburg location. Globally, TR supplies more than 60 billion components annually to over 5,000 customers and also produces over 8 billion parts per annum from its 8 manufacturing facilities worldwide.

At the Advanced Engineering show, TR will be exhibiting at stand B20 of the Automotive Engineering hall, one of four focal areas featured in the event. The show's other key areas are Advanced Materials, Smart Manufacturing and Additive Manufacturing.

As well as showcasing its full product range and inviting visitors to discuss questions, issues and specific requirements with its team of industry and product experts, TR will also be joined by some visitors at the stand this year. A team of students from Stockholm's highly regarded KTH Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) will be present, along with the electric car they have built with the help of TR components and consultancy.

For the past two years, TR Fastenings (TR) has provided assistance to teams of mechanical design and engineering students from the college to enable them to compete in Formula Student, Europe's most established educational motorsport contest. Formula Student aims to develop enterprising and innovative young engineers and to encourage more young people to take up a career in engineering.

Eugen Kuhn, Engineering Manager at TR Sweden, comments:

*"The Advanced Engineering show and in particular, the Automotive Engineering area, gives us a great opportunity to meet with potential buyers and influential decision makers from within the international automotive community. Since our own technical and innovation centre opened in Gothenburg last year, we have taken every opportunity to engage with automotive innovators and this show gives us another chance to continue and further these conversations."*

March 2019



Stand B18, International Centre, Telford, 28th March 2019

TR Fastenings Ltd (TR), a global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fastenings, is exhibiting at Battery Tech Expo in Telford on 28th March. The event will showcase the latest industry advancements in energy storage and battery technology, including those used in Electric Vehicles (EV).

TR is actively working with a number of organisations involved in the design, manufacture and development of EVs, Battery Pack Modules (EVB) and Electric Vehicle Charging Units for both commercial and residential use.

Emerging technology and the rapid development of this sector has enabled TR to combine its extensive product range and breadth of industry knowledge into the ideal package to support and contribute to this ground-breaking sector.

Kevin de Stadler, Director of Sales, UK and Ireland at TR comments: "The EV and EVB markets are such exciting, fast-moving sectors and the technology being developed for the next few years will be entirely different to what we are currently used to.

*"It's a real privilege to be involved in such a cutting-edge field, delivering our products and knowledge to start-ups, OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers developing transformative, innovative technology in this emerging market."*

Products TR will have on display at the show include:

- Fasteners with Electrically Isolating Coating
- Lightweight Non Magnetic Fasteners
- Battery Retention Bolts
- Cable Management hardware
- Compression Limiters

Also on show will be the newly patented EPW screw for thin sheet metal, developed, designed and patented in-house by TR engineers.

TR's qualified engineers and sales staff will be on hand to advise designers, production and purchasing teams on a number of matters, from Design for Manufacture (DfM) to new fastener technology, sourcing insight and cost reduction.

TR is a full service provider to the automotive industry, supplying and distributing fastener products to the Tier 1 market. TR's global reach now extends to 31 locations including eight manufacturing sites worldwide.

April 2019



On 28th March 2019 the Battery Tech Expo showcased the latest industry advancements in energy storage and battery technology providing TR Fastenings with great exposure within a market that is experiencing undeniable growth.

This one day expo at the International Centre, West Midlands in the UK was well attended and attracted 100 exhibitors, 15 industry speakers and over 1500 engineers, which enabled the TR team to engage in conversations around Design for Manufacture and new fastener technology, specifically within the automotive sector and Electric Vehicles (EV).

Keynote speakers from leading high tech companies such as QINETIQ, Weiss Technik UK, Wurth Electronics UK, Innovate UK and the Advanced Propulsion Centre UK, provided the latest industry insights to science and engineering professionals who had travelled from across the UK and abroad to better understand the opportunities the battery revolution is providing.

TR showcased a range of products including lightweight non-magnetic fasteners, battery retention bolts and compression limiters, in addition to the newly patented EPW screw for thin sheet metal, developed, designed and patented in-house by TR engineers.

Ian Carvell UK Engineering Manager, TR Fastenings, comments: "This show ensured that we met some of the key people involved in this new battery technology and share worthwhile exchanges of ideas on product design and some of the challenges being explored. We made some very good contacts and we have a number of opportunities as a result that we are working on."

TR is a full service provider to the automotive industry, supplying and distributing fastener products to the Tier 1 market. TR's global reach now extends to 31 locations including eight manufacturing sites worldwide.

April 2019



The Automotive CEE Day event in Opole, Poland is one of the largest European purchasing meetings in the industry and TR is pleased to report a very successful B2B automotive gathering this year. The event attracted people from across the world resulting in a dynamic and knowledge driven event enabling visitors to share opinions, establish new partnerships and explore business opportunities.

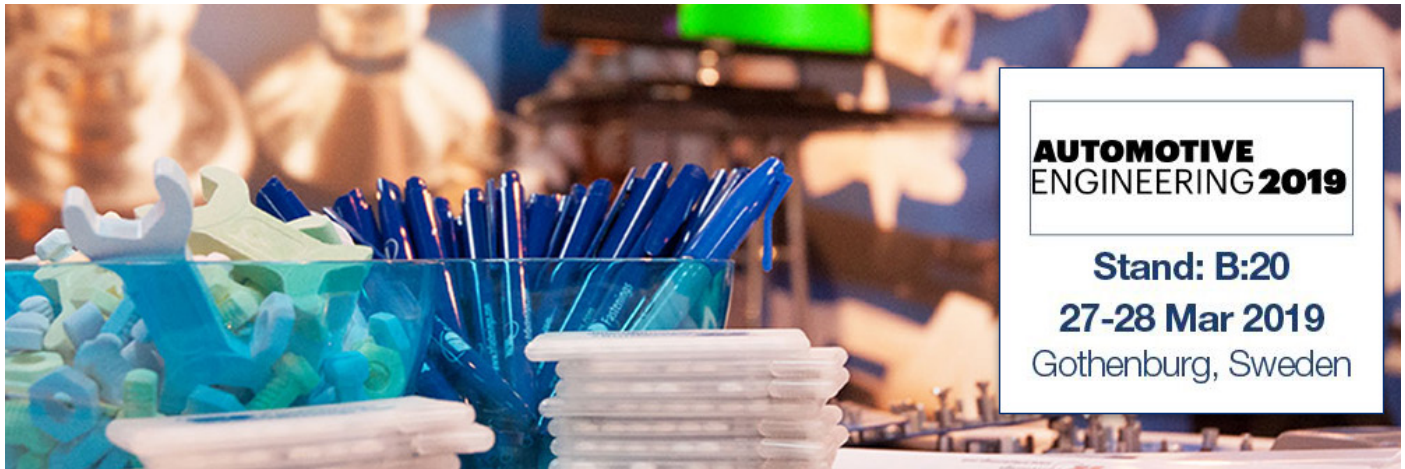
TR Fastenings was a key partner in this year's event with a prominent central exhibition stand and promotional banners clearly visible to all visitors. With leading presence in the industrial Knowledge Zone, TR's Simon Willington and Maciej Plewka discussed TR's experience in the sector and the significant contribution of fastener solutions to the automotive industry.

The two day event attracted almost 450 people from 12 countries as far away as China, with 64 exhibitors and 1250 B2B talks being held using a specially prepared online platform. The event also provided a great outlet for informal discussions and exchange of ideas.

The TR team had the opportunity to meet Tier 1 and 2 suppliers, existing customers and spark up conversations with new prospects. The meetings were all held in one place and organised very well to ensure everyone had the chance to engage with the right people.

TR is a full service provider to the automotive industry, supplying and distributing fastener products to the Tier 1 market. TR's global reach now extends to 31 locations including eight manufacturing sites worldwide.

May 2019



**AUTOMOTIVE  
ENGINEERING 2019**

**Stand: B:20**

**27-28 Mar 2019**

**Gothenburg, Sweden**

### Gothenburg exhibition a success for TR

TR Fastenings Ltd (TR), the international specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fastenings, has enjoyed a successful exhibition at [Advanced Engineering 2019](#), which was held in Gothenburg in March.

Celebrated as Sweden's most advanced showcase of industrial engineering, Advanced Engineering includes a hall dedicated purely to Automotive Engineering. As a key exhibitor in this hall, TR was able to showcase its wide range of specialist products for the automotive market and speak to stand visitors about its extensive sector experience and knowledge. As a result, the TR team held a number of meetings with suppliers, customers and prospective partners, with several OEM and Tier 1 firms visiting the stand to discuss requirements and ask specific product-related questions.

TR's involvement in the event followed the opening of its [Technical and Innovation centre in Gothenburg in May 2018](#), based in the Lindholmen Science Park, a national centre of excellence for automotive innovation. From major OEM firms and IT software developers to technical and engineering teams from Tier 1 manufacturers, Lindholmen is fast becoming a hub for automotive innovation in Europe.

TR is a full service provider to the automotive industry, supplying and distributing fastener products to the Tier 1 market. TR's global reach now extends to 31 sites, since the launch of the Gothenburg location. Globally, TR supplies to over 5,000 customers globally and produces approximately 8 billion parts per annum from its 8 manufacturing facilities worldwide.

TR was also joined on its stand this year by a team of students from Stockholm's highly regarded KTH Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), along with the electric car they have built with the help of TR components and consultancy. For the past two years, TR Fastenings (TR) has provided assistance to teams of mechanical design and engineering students from the college to enable them to compete in Formula Student, Europe's most established educational motorsport contest. Formula Student aims to develop enterprising and innovative young engineers and to encourage more young people to take up a career in engineering.

Eugen Kuhn, Engineering Manager at TR Sweden, comments: *"The show was a great success for us, giving us the ideal platform to demonstrate our expertise in automotive engineering and speak to a good range of contacts across all aspects of the supply chain. The event was well attended and we look forward to progressing the conversations we held at our stand."*

May 2019



Glenda Roberts, Group Sales Director for Trifast Plc, is taking a prominent spot in the speaker schedule at the second ever Fastener Fair USA, which is being held in Detroit, Michigan, from 22-23rd May 2019. Fastener Fair USA is the only exhibition in the U.S. dedicated to the full supply chain—distributors, mechanical and design engineers, purchasers, wholesalers, and OEMs.

Trifast is the parent company of TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings to major global assembly industries. TR has 31 business locations within the UK, Asia, Europe and the USA including eight high volume, high-quality and cost-effective manufacturing sites.

Glenda has been invited to FF USA as a special guest speaker by [Women in the Fastener Industry \(WIFI\)](#) to speak about her extensive experience in the global fasteners business, in which she has played a crucial role over the last 37 years, 29 of which have been at TR.

Speaking at 12.15pm on 22nd May on the Distributor Innovation Stage, Glenda will talk about her career, the evolution of both TR as a business and the wider fasteners sector, as well as current opportunities and challenges facing the industry.

As a Full Service Provider (FSP) to Tier 1 and Tier 2 businesses supporting global OEMs in the automotive industry, TR delivers comprehensive support to its customers giving an end2end service. As well as speaking at the event, Glenda will also be attending the exhibition along with colleagues from TR's Houston site to meet with other suppliers, Tier 1 and OEM businesses and industry influencers.

**More information about Glenda's speaker slot can be found [here](#).**

May 2019



TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners, exhibited its complete range of products and celebrated the success of its rapidly growing European distributor network at Fastener Fair Stuttgart in March 2019.

TR's prominent stand position at the 3 day show ensured the team benefitted directly from the considerable footfall through the event, which attracted 900 exhibitors from over 40 countries. The team welcomed and met with a high number of existing Master Distributors, end-user customers, distributor partners and suppliers as well as some interesting new prospects. Representatives from a number of large scale OEMs and end-user businesses visited the stand, including key contacts from the automotive and electronics sectors, both significant markets for TR.

In addition to the complete branded product portfolio, the TR stand also featured the brand new sheet metal fasteners brochures, the self-clinch and plastic fasteners ranges and the newly launched EPW screw for thin sheet metal. To add to the team's success, the EPW screw was also awarded a special award for innovation at the show, recognising its significant cost and time-saving benefits for customers.

The majority of TR's European Master Distributors attended the show and on the Wednesday evening, TR hosted a special dinner at a nearby exclusive restaurant to say thank you to the Master Distributors and celebrate their collaborative success. The dinner was attended by over 50 distributor guests and several TR representatives.

Adam John, European Distribution Sales Manager at TR Fastenings, comments:

*"Our 35 European Master Distributors from across 31 countries continue to play a significantly increasing role in our global growth success as a business and it was a pleasure to welcome them to our stand and show our appreciation for their work at our mid-show dinner. The tradeshow was very well attended and our stand was always busy, which is testament to the hard work of our teams both behind the scenes and during the event and the quality of the products and literature we had on display."*

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings is exhibiting at Automechanika Birmingham for the 4th time!



May 2019



NEC, 4-6 June, Stand F92

TR Fastenings (TR) will be exhibiting at [Automechanika Birmingham](#) from 4th-6th June 2019, when the successful exhibition for the automotive supply chain returns to the NEC for its fourth year.

TR is part of Trifast plc and is a global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings principally to major global assembly industries. TR has 31 business locations within the UK, Asia, Europe and the USA including eight high volume, high-quality and cost-effective manufacturing sites.

TR will be exhibiting at Automechanika Birmingham on Stand F92, having enjoyed successes at the previous three events. TR sees the event as “the place to be seen” and it is an important part of its annual calendar of events and promotions.

As a Full Service Provider (FSP) to Tier 1 and Tier 2 businesses supporting global OEMs in the automotive industry, TR delivers comprehensive support to its customers giving an end2end service.

A key focus this year will be on components for [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) charging units and EV batteries \(EVBs\)](#) as the EV market gathers considerable pace. The product required for these areas are already within TR's portfolio and we will be able to support and advise on applications.

Glenda Roberts, Trifast's Global Sales Director, comments: *“The growth of the EV market and the electric highways being created has led TR into new areas of development, in particular with battery production, the fixings that are required and the finishes. Our strength as a manufacturer and distributor is further enhanced by the design and technical support that we are providing to our customers as part of the FSP service. We have heavily invested in recruiting fastener engineers over the last few years and this is proving to be a much-needed support that we can offer to our customers, from the initial design right through to VA /VE initiatives on mature products.”*

TR's qualified engineers and Product Managers will be on hand at Automechanika to advise designers, production and purchasing teams, encouraging them to bring their fastener application issues to us so we can offer solutions and demonstrate our knowledge.

TR is a member of the [Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders \(SMMT\)](#) and the [North East Automotive Association \(NEAA\)](#) and has benefitted greatly from its association with these organisations. Attending Automechanika Birmingham over the last three years has enabled TR to further cement its position within the automotive industry, allowing it to access and converse with wider audiences, from design through to aftermarket.

May 2019



TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fastenings, is one of a number of esteemed national companies speaking at the Future of Automotive conference on 27th June in Durham.

The event is the first ever automotive conference to be organised by the [North East Automotive Alliance \(NEAA\)](#), the UK's largest automotive business cluster, of which TR is a member. The conference will be held at Ramside Hall Hotel and its speaker line-up features senior figures from organisations including Innovate UK, Department for International Trade and Siemens, as well as TR.

Chris Black, TR's Global Sales Director of Automotive Business Development, will speak at the conference about automotive trends, the role of the North East in the industry's growth and development and the specific role that TR Fastenings plays as a key supplier to automotive Tier 1s and OEMs.

The North East is globally renowned as a centre of excellence for automotive manufacturing, producing 30% of all UK passenger vehicles and is a significant contributor to the regional economy, generating over £11bn of sales. The region is home to leading global automotive companies, such as Nissan, Komatsu, Cummins, Adient, Borg Warner, Calsonic Kansei, Elring Klinger, Faltec, Gestamp, Kasai, Lear, Nifco, Novares, SNOP, Unipres and ZF TRW. Despite near-term challenges around the transition to electrification, the sector is expected to grow to £14 bn over the next three years. (Source: NEAA).

TR has worked closely with the NEAA for a number of years, regularly speaking at events and participating in the successful annual exhibition, which is now entering its fifth year.

Paul Butler, CEO of the NEAA says of the conference: *"We are delighted to introduce the future of automotive conference to the region. It is in the North East's best interests that we are fully informed and prepared for the future opportunities that will come out of the automotive sector."*

TR's Chris Black adds *"It's a pleasure to be asked to speak at the NEAA's first ever automotive conference. The North East is home to such a successful network of automotive manufacturers, suppliers and organisations, and the NEAA does a great job of bringing these businesses together to share knowledge and create opportunities."*

**The conference is expected to host over 100 delegates at the Ramside Hall Hotel on Thursday 27th June 2019. Tickets must be purchased via [Eventbrite](#).**

June 2019



TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, has completed its fourth successful appearance at Automechanika Birmingham, which ran from 4th-6th June at the NEC. Organisers claim that this year's show was the busiest ever, since it began in 2016. The next event will be in 2021, as the show moves from an annual to bi-annual format and TR has already booked its place.

TR has 31 business locations within the UK, Asia, Europe and the USA including eight high volume, high-quality and cost-effective manufacturing sites. As a Full Service Provider (FSP) to Tier 1 and Tier 2 businesses supporting global OEMs in the automotive industry, TR delivers comprehensive support to its customers giving an end2end service.

Having exhibited at all three previous Automechanika Birmingham shows, TR sees it as a must-attend event and the place to be seen for suppliers, Tier 1s and OEMs in the automotive supply chain. As well as exhibiting, TR team members also attended a number of high profile VIP events and networking receptions at the show, hosted by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) and the Department of International Trade (DIT).

This year, the TR team was keen to showcase its product range suitable for [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) charging units](#) and EV batteries (EVBs) as the EV market gathers considerable pace. The product required for these areas are already within TR's portfolio and the team held several meetings at its stand with existing, new and prospective customers to discuss these and other solutions.

Glenda Roberts, Global Sales Director for TR's parent company, Trifast plc comments:

*"Attending and exhibiting at Automechanika Birmingham over the last four years has enabled us to further establish our excellent position within the automotive industry. Our strong links with organisations such as the SMMT, the DIT and the North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA) ensure we are constantly talking to the key players in the industry and keeping on top of emerging trends, issues and technologies."*

*"Despite the often negative commentary around the health of UK automotive manufacturing, we believe the opposite is true. The growth of the EV market plus astonishing developments in engineering and materials makes this an incredibly exciting sector to be operating in and we are hugely proud of the role we play in the industry."*

June 2019



Stand 3223, 10-12th July, Centro Citibanamex, Mexico City

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, will be returning to Mexico City in July to exhibit at the INA PAACE Automechanika Mexico show for the second year in a row.

TR has 32 business locations within the UK, Asia, Europe and the USA including eight high volume, high-quality and cost-effective manufacturing sites. As a Full Service Provider (FSP) to Tier 1 and Tier 2 businesses supporting global OEMs in the automotive industry, TR delivers comprehensive support to its customers giving an end2end service.

Having exhibited at Automechanika Mexico in 2018 and just completed its fourth successful year as an exhibitor and key sponsor at Automechanika Birmingham, TR views Automechanika events as the place to be seen for suppliers, Tier 1s and OEMs in the automotive supply chain.

Automechanika Mexico runs from 10th-12th July at the Centro Citibanamex in Mexico City and continues to be Latin America's most important automotive trade show for industry professionals looking to explore new suppliers, technology and product options. With exhibitors including key domestic and international manufacturers, Automechanika Mexico provides a dedicated platform for sourcing domestic and international products and suppliers across the automotive market.

TR is showcasing its full range of automotive fastener products at the event, as well as highlighting its capability of supplying many of the components that are used in the manufacture of electric vehicles, batteries and charging units.

Chris Black, Director of Automotive Business Development at TR, comments: *"Our growing and highly successful global footprint means we are well positioned to support customers in the fast-evolving automotive landscape in Mexico and the surrounding regions."*

*"We have just finished a very successful show at Automechanika Birmingham 2019, where we held extremely positive meetings with longstanding, new and prospective customers and we look forward to doing more of the same in Mexico City."*

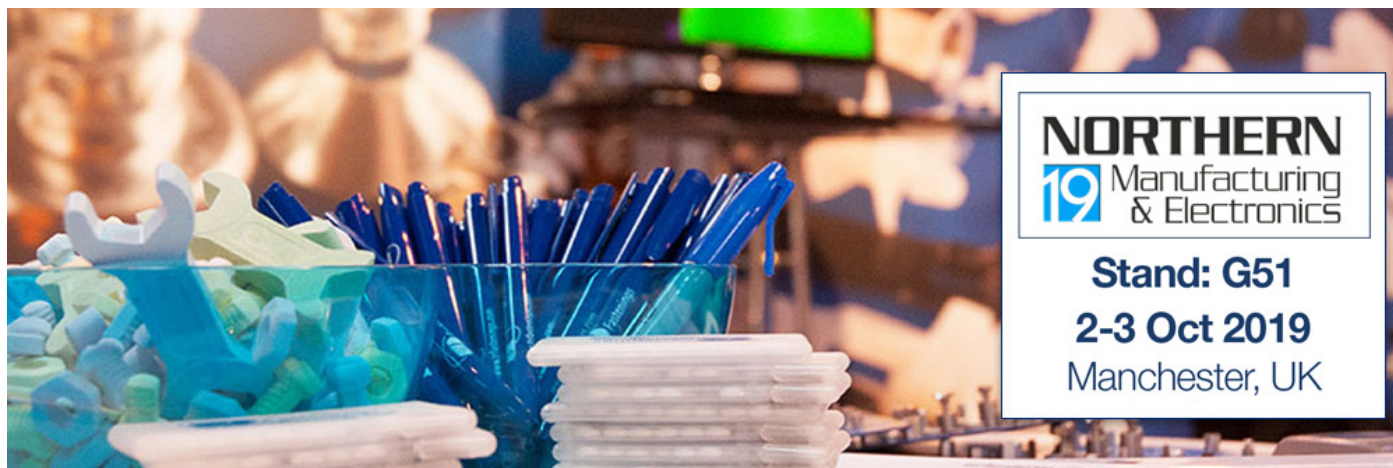
**TR Fastenings can be found at Stand 3223 at Automechanika Mexico, 10-12th July 2019.**

# TR Press Release

## TR to showcase expertise and products at Northern Manufacturing and Electronics 2019



August 2019



Stand G51, 2nd-3rd October 2019, Manchester, UK

TR Fastenings, the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners and Cat C fastenings, will be exhibiting at Northern Manufacturing & Electronics 2019, which takes place from the 2nd-3rd October 2019 at EventCity in Manchester.

[Northern Manufacturing and Electronics](#) is 'one of the key marketplaces for industrial technology, components and engineering services in the North, and an un-missable event for the region's manufacturers and their associated supply chains.'

TR engineers, manufactures and distributes industrial fasteners to OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers in sectors ranging from automotive, electronics and domestic appliances, and has 32 global locations including 8 manufacturing sites. The continued investment in equipment, resources and skills in these facilities enables the development of innovative fastening solutions, such as the newly launched [TR patented EPW screw](#), a self-extruding thread-forming screw designed for use in thin sheet metal. TR also supports emerging sectors such as Electric Vehicle (EV) charging and EV battery (EVB) technology with its combination of fastener product ranges and industry expertise.

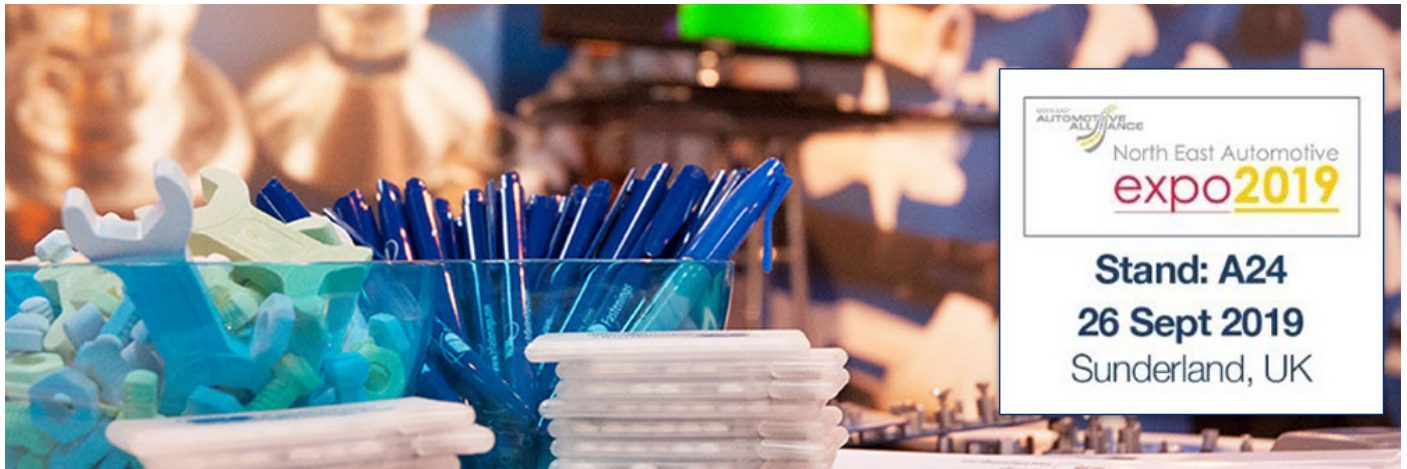
At Northern Manufacturing, TR will be exhibiting a full range of industrial fasteners, including its own branded [fasteners for sheet metal](#), [enclosure hardware](#), [fasteners for plastic](#), [security fasteners](#), and [plastic hardware](#), as well as special fasteners [designed and manufactured](#) to customer drawings. [The EPW screw](#) will also be on display at the show, with TR engineers on hand to talk through its applications and benefits.

Kevin de Stadler, Sales Director of TR Fastenings, comments:

*"The chance to discuss our products and services with potential customers is always valuable and Northern Manufacturing will give us a great opportunity to share our expertise and demonstrate the breadth of our product range."*

*"The fact that the show covers such a large variety of sectors, disciplines and specialities means we can not only reach a wider audience but also partake in conversations about the issues and market conditions affecting each aspect of the manufacturing industry."*

September 2019



Beacon of Light, Sunderland, 26th September 2019

International specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, TR Fastenings (TR), a Trifast plc company, is attending the North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA) Expo in Sunderland, UK, for the fourth time. Celebrating its fifth anniversary this year, the Expo will take place on the 26th September 2019 at the Beacon of Light venue and is the region's only event focused solely on the automotive sector. It 'provides companies with a platform to connect, do business, demonstrate technology and learn about the support available to them'.

TR has been attending the event since 2016 and has been consistently impressed by its success and ability to attract senior figures and industry representatives from all over the UK.

TR Fastenings is a full service provider (FSP) across a wide range of industries including automotive, electronics, domestic appliances and telecoms. Its core business is supplying high volume assembly multinational OEMs with quality components; offering bespoke engineered solutions to specific fastening challenges and providing logistical support to the Tier 1 market. TR has 32 sites across the globe, including three Technical and Innovation Centres in Sweden, the UK and the USA and eight manufacturing locations worldwide.

Chris Black, Global Director of Automotive Business Development at TR Fastenings, comments: *"The Automotive industry is rapidly evolving both in the North East and across the UK and beyond, with the rise of Electric Vehicle (EV) technology of particular significance. The NEAA is a fantastic facilitator of networking and knowledge sharing amongst the automotive industry in the North East, which is one of the region's most successful business sectors. We are looking forward to attending again this year and continuing to play a role in this thriving business community."*

September 2019

You're invited!



Find us at **Stand 212I**

16th - 18th October 2019

Hungexpo, Budapest, Hungary

Stand 212I, HUNGEXPO, Budapest, 16-18th October 2019

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners and Category C fastenings, will be exhibiting at Automotive Hungary in October, to showcase its extensive product range and expert capabilities in the Automotive and Electric Vehicle (EV) markets.

[Automotive Hungary](#), which is now in its seventh year, is a leading trade exhibition for automotive industry suppliers, focusing on manufacturing process and supplier services, components and systems, IT, machinery and materials. The show, which expects to attract over 10,000 industry professionals, will be held at the HUNGEXPO venue in Budapest from the 16th- 18th October.

TR engineers, manufactures and distributes industrial fasteners to [automotive](#) OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers as well as a number of other sectors including [electronics](#) and [domestic appliances](#). TR has 32 global locations including eight manufacturing sites. TR also supports emerging sectors such as EV charging units and EV battery technology with its combination of fastener product ranges and industry expertise.

TR is showcasing its full range of automotive fastener products at the event, as well as highlighting its capability of supplying many of the components that are used in the manufacture of EVs, EV batteries (EVBs) and [EV charging units](#). Representing TR at its stand will be Chris Black, Simon Willington, Jeremy Scholefield, Laszlo Hollosi and David Notari.

Chris Black, Director of Automotive Business Development at TR, comments: *"Our growing and highly successful global footprint means we are well positioned to support customers across Europe and the world as the automotive manufacturing market continues to evolve."*

*"The chance to discuss our products and services with potential customers is always valuable and Automotive Hungary will give us a great opportunity to share our expertise and demonstrate the breadth of our product range."*

October 2019



Stand H70, 10th October 2019, Newton Aycliffe, UK

TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners and Category C fastenings, will be exhibiting at [EMCON](#) in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, on the 10th October.

EMCON, which showcases the very best of engineering and manufacturing in the North East and beyond, enables exhibitors to network with empowered buyers, key decision makers and influencers from blue chip OEMs and major industrial engineering groups, responsible for tactical subcontracting and special process outsourcing.

TR Fastenings is a full service provider (FSP) across a wide range of industries including automotive, electronics, domestic appliances and telecoms. TR has 32 sites around the world, including 8 manufacturing facilities and 3 technical innovation centres. TR's site in Newton Aycliffe specialises in servicing the region's highly active automotive market, supporting Tier 1 businesses who in turn supply the global automotive OEMs operating in the North East.

TR Fastenings will be one of over 100 exhibiting companies. Karen Holden, Operations Manager at TR Newton Aycliffe, comments:

*"Exhibiting at EMCON enables us to have a regional platform to showcase our capabilities and have solutions-focused conversations with major engineering and manufacturing players in the North East. We already have strong connections within the region and in particular within the automotive manufacturing community here, but the show allows us to showcase our knowledge and expertise to a wider audience."*

October 2019



Following an opening ceremony networking event, OTD will take place from 16-17 October 2019, Stavanger, Norway

TR Fastenings, the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners and Category C fastenings, will be exhibiting at Norway's [Offshore Technology Days \(OTD\)](#). The event, to take place from 16-17 October in Stavanger, will bring together some of the leading professionals from the oil and energy industries.

As an exhibitor, TR Fastenings will have exclusive access to professionals in the NCS operating companies and main contractors. OTD's BusinessHub offers one-to-one meetings with purchasers and technical staff from operators and contractors, providing a way to pursue new business opportunities.

TR Fastenings Norway site is a leader in the Petrochemical fastener distribution industry, with a dedicated support team for the offshore industry known for its exceptional levels of quality and delivery. It has state of the art quality and inspection facilities including: optical sorting machines, ductility testing equipment, torsional strength testers and x-ray plating thickness test equipment.

TR supplies a vast range of products to the oil industry including fasteners such as studbolts, stainless steel, nuts and blind rivets, and materials including Duplex, Titanium Alloys and A4-80.

At OTD, TR will be joined on its stand by trusted partner, Stavanger-based [Metal & Steel Supply \(MSS\)](#), which specialises in the rental of glare material for the testing of process plants and associated systems. TR Fastenings will also use this opportunity to promote the products of other partners such as rivet technology specialist, Gesipa, and Industrilas, which specialises in commercial products and system solutions for latches, hinges and sealing technology.

Jan-Erik Storsve of TR Norway, comments:

*"We are committed to investing in equipment, resources and our staff which enables the development of innovative fastening solutions. OTD is the meeting place where professionals from the oil and energy business meet and share technical and commercial experience and we are very much looking forward to being a part of the discussion."*

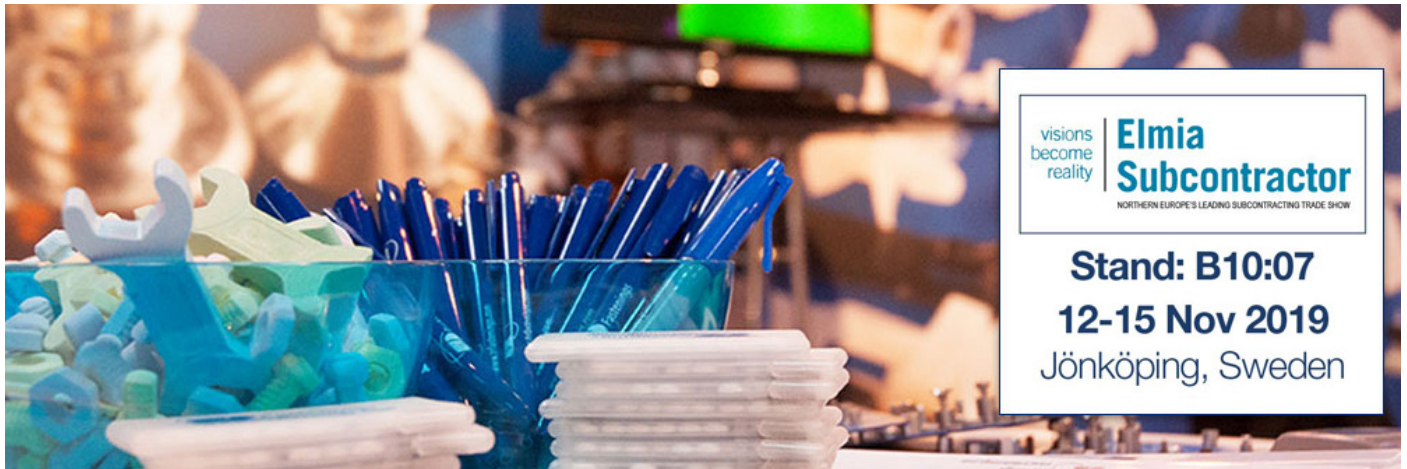
TR Fastenings is a full service provider to the automotive and other industries, delivering early design and technical involvement, V&VE engineering, global sourcing and logistical solutions from its 32 global locations which include 8 manufacturing sites.

# TR Press Release

## TR Sweden exhibiting at Elmia Subcontractor for the 13th year running



October 2019



Stand B10:07, 12-15 Nov 2019, Jönköping, Sweden

The Swedish team from TR Fastenings (TR), the international specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fastenings, will be exhibiting for the 13th successive year at Northern Europe's biggest manufacturing industry event, [Elmia Subcontractor](#).

The show, which will be held in Jönköping, Sweden from 12th to 15th November, brings together manufacturing experts at all stages of the supply chain across Sweden and beyond. The [automotive industry](#) is a major focus for the TR Sweden team so they will be concentrating largely on this sector at the show.

Over 1,200 exhibitors are expected from more than 30 countries, creating a unique environment for forming new partnerships and nurturing customer relationships. Elmia is the region's leading trade fair for suppliers from throughout the manufacturing industry and its customers, creating a fertile environment to discuss product development and purchasing. The four-day show features innovative manufacturing techniques, smart materials, and forward-thinking engineering solutions.

TR Sweden's New Business & Development Manager, Manoj Parmar, commented:

*"The chance to showcase our products and services to potential customers is always valuable, and Elmia presents us with the opportunity to liaise with hundreds of companies from all over Northern Europe."*

*"A great deal of automotive businesses attend the show each year, so it's a fantastic platform for us to showcase our strengths in this sector and form new relationships."*

March 2019



Specialist fasteners allow customers to boost safety and security whilst not compromising on aesthetics

International specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial and Cat C fasteners, TR Fastenings (TR), is proud to be able to support a wide variety of sectors with its range of specialist security fasteners, engineered to prevent theft, deter vandalism and boost health and safety.

The security fastener range complements TR's wider catalogue of industrial fastenings and can be used alongside or instead of standard parts. The security fasteners have added features to ensure that the products and their enclosed components cannot be tampered with or become loose, causing damage or injury. They also ensure that the components within the enclosed structures cannot be removed, other than by a specially trained technician with bespoke tools.

TR's range of security fasteners includes machine screws, self-tapping screws, wood screws and self-drilling screws, as well as specialist nuts and drivers. A number of different drive options are available, including pin hexagon, triangular, Kinmar®, 6 lobe pin, Sentinel®, Solok™, Scroll™, Nogo™, Tufnut®, Armour Ring™, oval, shear and more. The full range of product types and drive options can be viewed on the dedicated security fastener landing pages on the TR website.

### Design features of security fasteners include:

- Unusual shapes to prevent tampering, requiring non-standard drives such as 2-hole pig-nosed fittings
- Tapered diameters, resistant to gripping devices
- Increased frictional resistance within the bolt, limiting rotation and making it more difficult for the part to be loosened
- Aesthetic features such as shear torques and smooth finishes mean that these fasteners can be ultra-secure whilst also looking good: an important consideration when used in high-end and luxury environments
- The fastenings are used across applications where the components being protected are expensive or function-critical. This could include sophisticated technology, products in high risk environments or public property which needs to be protected from theft and tampering.

### Applications where security products are commonly used include:

- Street furniture such as park benches, traffic lights and road signage
- Transport fixtures including car seats, train carriages and underground barriers
- Public venues such as concert arenas, sports stadiums and their interiors, including seating and stages

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings showcases range of specially engineered security components



March 2019

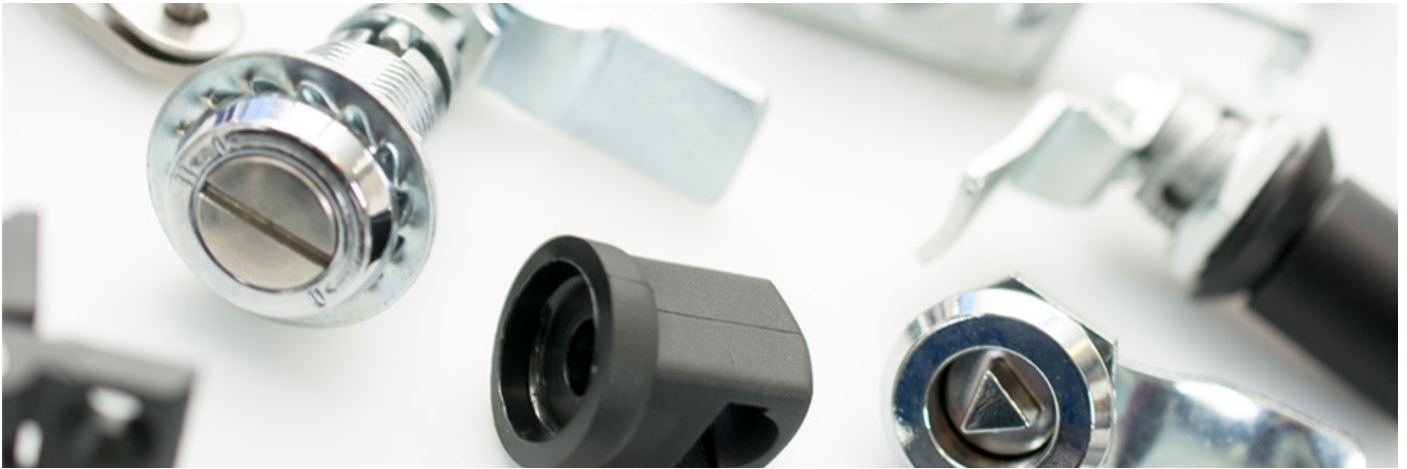


Paul Standing, Commercial Products Manager at TR Fastenings, comments:

*"As the world we live in continues to evolve, affecting the way we work, live and communicate, there is an increasing need to protect and secure the objects and infrastructures we create."*

*"Security now plays a vital role all the way through the engineering process, so designing in security fasteners at the beginning of the manufacturing process ensures that products and their enclosures can be protected from risk."*

September 2019



TR Fastenings (TR), the global specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of high quality industrial fasteners, offers a broad range of enclosure hardware products for use in a number of applications in industries including Telecoms, Oil & Gas, HVAC and Transport.

As an increasing number of industries use cabinets, secure boxes and other enclosure units to house electronics, wiring and other systems in public places, there is also a need for high quality enclosure hardware and mechanisms to be an integral part of the design.

TR's extensive range features [locks](#), [locking systems](#), [gaskets](#), [hinges](#), [latches](#), [handles](#), [clamps](#) and [terminals](#). Products in detail:

- Locking systems are used on large door spans where one handle operates multiple locking points. These systems are modular, providing flexibility for customising to different door sizes.
- Locks provide a single locking point with a variety of keys to suit the differing inserts available.
- Hinges are commonly used to connect a door to its frame or supporting object, to provide a point upon where it can rotate open and closed.
- Clamps are typically used to connect electrical conductors such as cables or terminals.
- Gaskets can be used as edge protection, or to provide a seal between 2 surfaces (such as a door and a frame), with a wide range of profile types and fixing methods depending upon the application.
- Accessories such as rod guides enable door features and locking systems to be customised and tailored to suit individual sizes, shapes and settings.

These products are used in numerous applications across various industries, including both on board and track / roadside in [rail, bus and other transport solutions](#), in cabinets housing [heating and ventilation \(HVAC\) equipment](#) and in [telecoms](#) enclosures. The products can also be used in more hazardous industries and conditions, including on-and off-shore [Oil & Gas sites](#) and [Energy plants](#).

#### **Additional applications of enclosure hardware include:**

- Medium Voltage Switchgear
- Data Centre & Server Rack Cabinets
- Electricity generation/transmission/transformers
- [EV Charging Units](#)

# TR Press Release

## TR Fastenings showcases specialist range of Enclosure Hardware products



September 2019



Kevin de Stadler, UK & Ireland Sales Director, TR Fastenings, comments:

*"As new technology, equipment and applications are developed throughout different industrial sectors, there is an increasing need to make sure they are kept safe, especially in settings where they may be exposed to dangers such as severe weather, corrosive atmospheres, tampering or theft. Our enclosure hardware products not only increase the safety of the contents inside an enclosure or cabinet but also improve other factors such as ease of installation and access for maintenance teams."*

September 2019



Protecting equipment in hazardous environments with high quality enclosure hardware.

The energy industry covers a wide range of specific sectors, from wind and solar power to oil and gas production. Whilst these disciplines differ widely in terms of the energy they produce and the equipment they use, there are also commonalities - the most prominent of which is the fact that they often operate in extreme and even hazardous circumstances.

From off-shore environments to exposure to severe weather conditions, the teams working in these fields and the equipment they employ are consistently in need of protection from the hazards they face on a day to day basis.

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### Valuable assets

As a result of these conditions, stringent safety and process restrictions are required to protect the materials, equipment and technology utilised in these working environments.

From specialised electronics to cables, computer hardware and machinery, this equipment is often bespoke and extremely valuable and could be subject to tampering, theft, damage or even failure if not kept protected.

As a solution, robust and secure enclosure units are always a priority to house equipment on sites in these industries. Location of these enclosures is key; where equipment is stored has a large bearing on the level of protection required to keep it safe. For example, most enclosures used in wind and solar energy applications are located outside and must be able to withstand conditions such as:

- Extreme temperatures
- Excessive humidity or dryness
- Rain and moisture
- Snow and ice
- Heavy winds
- Exposure to chemicals and corrosive substances

September 2019



## Keeping enclosures secure

How an enclosure is designed and the features and hardware used to secure them is vital when considering how to protect the equipment used in these environments. Hardware such as sophisticated locking systems with either quarter or half turn mechanisms can ensure that doors are safe from tampering and forced opening.

For added security, many structures can have two or even three locking points, allowing the locking rod to run all the way from the top to the bottom of the door, thus avoiding the risk of tampering or theft which can be common where only one locking point is present.

Depending on the depth of the door return, the locking rods will need to be set at different distances, for example 20mm or 26mm. In the past, customers needed to purchase individual rod guides to cater for these different measurements.

The new rod guide from TR Fastenings seeks to eliminate this complication and avoid frustration by providing a simple solution which can be adapted for use, simply twisting the guide to adjust the distance accordingly.

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## Designing in safety

Enclosure hardware goes beyond just [locks](#) and [locking systems](#).

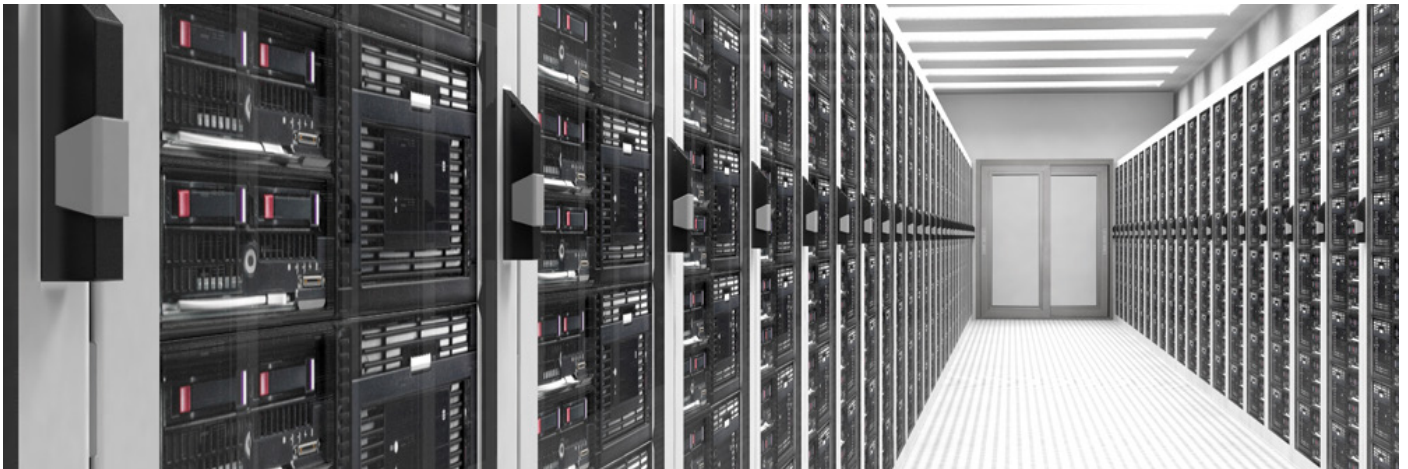
From [latches](#) and [hinges](#), to [clamps](#) and [gaskets](#), there are multiple components which can be customised and tailored to suit specific requirements, sizes and designs. Simply changing what side a door opens on or at what height a hinge is fitted can result in added security for the components housed within each unit.

With Oil, Gas and other Energy sector environments, the materials used in the units are of great importance, as they need to be resistant to certain conditions and corrosive substances or chemicals. By adding in the extra assurance of robust and sophisticated locking and opening hardware, these units become even more immune to the dangers faced in these industrial settings, providing even more protection for the valuable equipment they contain.

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[Click here](#) to learn more about the TR Fastenings enclosure hardware range and how it is used in the energy, oil and gas sector.

October 2019



The demand for enclosures and data centre racks is on the increase, thanks to rapidly expanding infrastructure around IT and Telecoms systems.

In July, O2 became the UK's last mobile network to announce its forthcoming rollout of 5G technology, which will expand to 50 towns and cities across the country by summer 2020. 5G technology will not only enable faster mobile phones and improved network connections, but will also facilitate and support advanced 'smart' technology in homes, workplaces and public places. Enabling more than one connection at once, 5G will allow devices and networks to talk to each other, supporting the Internet of Things (IoT) and smart systems in all aspects of our lives.

As this sophisticated technology is developed and 5G capabilities become more widely rolled out, there is a need for larger and more complex storage and enclosure solutions to house the equipment and components involved.

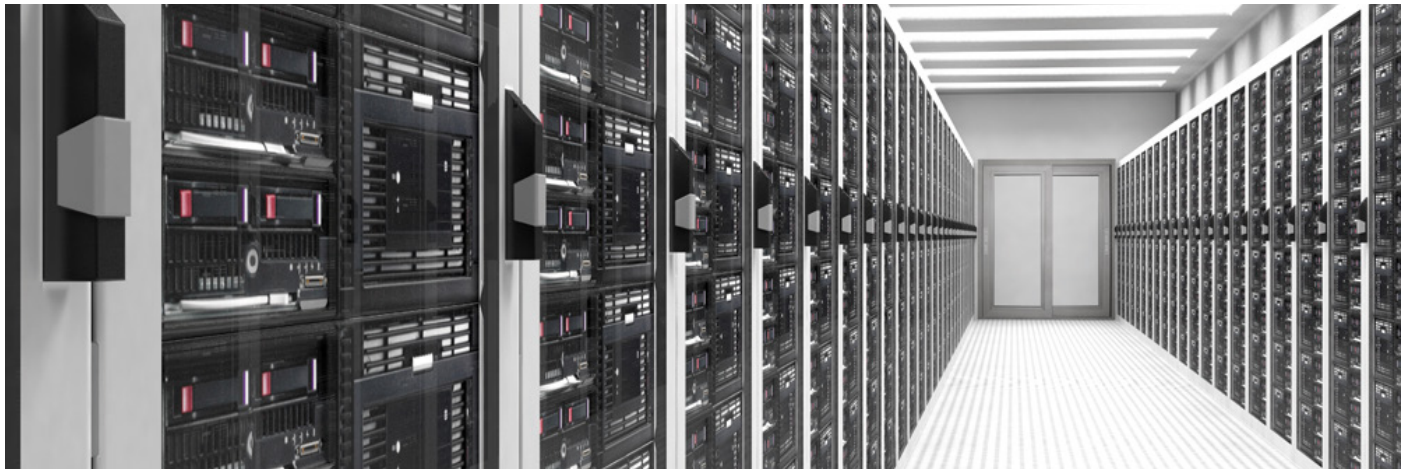
As the telecoms systems become more advanced, more data is generated and stored, hence the requirement for more data centres and storage units. Keeping this data and the equipment facilitating it secure is also paramount. Enclosures must not only be robust and large enough to house the systems within, but must be equipped with the right locks, opening mechanisms and precautions to prevent damage, tampering and potential theft.

Using a range of hardware options, such as multiple locking points and sophisticated locking systems is the best way of ensuring that the enclosure's contents are secure. The location of each enclosure also needs to be considered. Many Telecoms units will be stored inside, but roadside and outside cabinets are also widely used, so it's vital that materials and mechanisms are used that can withstand and protect contents from harsh conditions or severe weather.

Telecoms equipment includes a great deal of electronics and fragile components such as cables, switches, modems, routers and wires. These items must be protected from dangerous substances and environments, whether they are located indoors or outdoors, to avoid damage from factors such as:

- Adverse weather conditions such as wind, rain and ice
- Moisture and corrosion
- Dust and particulates
- Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC)
- High temperatures and fire risk

October 2019



In order to withstand these conditions, Telecoms cabinets are often made from robust materials such as galvanised or powder coated steel and stainless steel components.

As 5G and other industry developments continue to gather pace, it's crucial that enclosure technology keeps up with demand and provides sufficient solutions to cater for this growth. In comparison to the technology itself, cabinets and storage may seem like a small part of the wider puzzle, but the significance of housing and protecting this technology should not be underestimated.

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Click [here](#) to learn more about the TR Fastenings enclosure hardware range and how it is used in the Telecoms sector.

October 2019



The HVAC industry is a wide-ranging sector, involving a multitude of equipment and operations that vary from tiny components to vast refrigeration units and heat treatment centres. On an industrial level, the need to house and protect all of this hardware and electronics is therefore significant and varied.

Enclosure units must be able to withstand a number of different conditions, settings and environments and provide different levels of security and protection: all vital for the equipment inside.

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### Hazardous environments

The electronics and systems at play in this sector are often sensitive and fragile, so careful consideration is needed to determine how they are stored, accessed and maintained.

Many HVAC systems are located in hazardous environments and require specialist enclosure features such as secure locks and robust materials. Conditions such as extreme temperatures, both internal and external, call for specialist measures and protection from corrosive atmospheres and chemicals is, in some cases, essential.

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### Withstanding the heat

One such consideration is how to protect components and hardware from extreme heat.

Some electronics and controls are so sensitive to heat that a difference of just 10°C can mean the difference between systems safety and systems failure. For every 10° rise, the lifespan of these components can be cut in half, or worse.

Enclosure hardware becomes a factor to ensure that these units are secure and robust, protecting contents from outside conditions yet providing access where necessary in case of the need for maintenance or repair, for example. Secure locking systems and added features such as inspection windows so contents can be viewed without units being opened can be vital in this industry.

October 2019



### Keeping things cool

Of course, HVAC includes cooling as well as heating.

Many HVAC systems are located in hazardous environments and require specialist enclosure features such as secure locks and robust materials. Conditions such as extreme temperatures, both internal and external, call for specialist measures and protection from corrosive atmospheres and chemicals is, in some cases, essential.

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### Full range of solutions

Our Enclosure hardware products are ideal for HVAC settings, due to the variety of components and solutions on offer: ranging from control panel features to two or three point locking systems and secure latches. We understand the difference in requirements across the industry and have a solution fit for every situation.

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Click [here](#) to learn more about the TR Fastenings enclosure hardware range and how it is used in the HVAC sector.

October 2019



The vital role played by enclosure and locking hardware within the rail sector cannot be overemphasised when it comes to the protection and continuity of equipment, signalling and controls, as well as the locking systems used on board trains.

Not only does this hardware ensure that such essential equipment and systems – from trackside cabinets to signalling panels – are kept secure at all times; it also shields them from hazardous environments, corrosion and extreme weather.

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### Rail: the digital revolution

Against this backdrop comes a new era of digitalisation, which is set to transform the rail industry.

With massive investment already made in such projects as the £7 billion Government-sponsored Thames Link and 117-kilometre Crossrail (excessive and extremely costly delays notwithstanding), the challenge the industry faces is that this massive investment must be matched by the hardware supplied to support these initiatives, in terms of their sophistication, reliability and low cost of maintenance.

Digitalisation may well be the proving ground for a new way of interacting with suppliers, aptly exemplified by the first implementation of digital interlocking technology on a UK passenger-carrying line in June this year, which involved new technologies, software systems and working methods being specifically developed, tested and coming together at the same time. The control system covers a short section of line between Fulwell and Strawberry Hill in southwest London and forms the first stage of Network Rail's Feltham area re-signalling project.

Undoubtedly, digital transformation in the railway sector over recent years has been accelerated by the emergence of the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, Big Data Analytics (BDA), automation and robotics, as well as Industry 4, and, more recently, Railway 4.0 and Digital Railway. They have become the gauntlet that digitalisation has thrown down, reflecting the technological advancements fast becoming accessible to the rail sector – the latest embodiment of a long tradition of development and change in the industry.

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### Enclosure hardware: safe and secure

The role played by enclosures in the sector largely remains the same: to house and protect crucial equipment.

However, as the technology changes and the equipment becomes arguable more sophisticated and complex, the need to ensure the enclosures are robust and secure becomes greater.

October 2019



In addition, enclosure hardware such as locks, hinges, handles and gaskets can also be used actually on board trains: on door locking systems, secure control panels and on passenger furniture such as tables and seats. Keeping the trains themselves and their passengers safe is as vital as safely housing the equipment and systems which help to keep the trains running.

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### Extensive product range

As a recognised specialist in the design, engineering, manufacture and distribution of a wide range of high-quality industrial fastenings and assembly products for the rail sector, our expertise on enclosure and locking hardware – from control and power cabinets to door locking systems and secure panels – has positioned us at the leading edge of global supply.

Certainly, the solutions required for a rapidly modernising, increasingly digitalised rail sector are embedded in our extensive enclosure hardware range, including:

- Secure door locking systems
- Locking systems and hinges on trackside and roadside cabinets and storage units
- Locks and hinges on access panels
- Locks, hinges and gaskets on control panels
- Compression locks for vibration reduction
- Housing for the protection of vital railway equipment
- Infrastructure for rail applications – eg, signalling
- On-board applications.

We are living in a world where real-time tracking and tracing systems for trains and freight cars, along with the use of drones to monitor trains and ensure the safety of cargo, are likely to become the norm. Only those suppliers who move at the same speed in support of a digitalised rail sector will ensure they are not left behind on the platform.

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Click [here](#) to learn more about the TR Fastenings enclosure hardware range and how it is used in the transport sector.

July 2019



As the automotive market continues to evolve and environmental and economic pressures increasingly demand a shift towards sustainable solutions and lower carbon emissions, Electric Vehicles (EV) is one of the fastest growing markets to have emerged in recent years. As this sector adapts to public and market demands, the whole supply chain is working to flex to these changes, with considerable developments being made in technology, cost-saving initiatives and lightweighting techniques.

In this article we look at the rapidly developing EV and EV Battery (EVB) sectors and how fasteners are helping to shape the future of this exciting new chapter in automotive and electronic history.

### Fasteners: Securing the development of EV and EVB

The role of fasteners in this bigger picture around EV is not insignificant: not only are they needed for the vehicles themselves, but charging units, EV battery casings and general infrastructure equipment all require high quality fastenings to provide robust and secure settings for this valuable technology.

The growing consumer demand for EVs, coupled with the rapid development of EV and EVB technology has enabled TR Fastenings to combine our extensive fastener product range and breadth of knowledge into the ideal package to support and contribute to these ground-breaking sectors.

The EV and EVB markets are such exciting, fast-moving sectors and the resulting impact on global supply chains in both the automotive and electronic industries has been huge in terms of demand and opportunity. It's a real privilege to be involved in such a cutting-edge field, delivering our products and knowledge to start-ups, OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers developing transformative technology such as longer lasting batteries, lightweight solutions and connected devices.

### EV: The industry landscape

According to BloombergNEF's latest Electric vehicle (EV) Outlook report, published in January 2019, 57% of all global passenger vehicle sales and 30% of the global passenger vehicle fleet will be electric by 2040.

2 million EVs were sold worldwide in 2018, and this number is expected to rise to 10m by 2025, 28m by 2030 and 56m by 2040. The growth in this sector has been rapid, rising quickly into the millions, a far cry from 2010 when only a few thousand EVs were sold across the globe.

July 2019

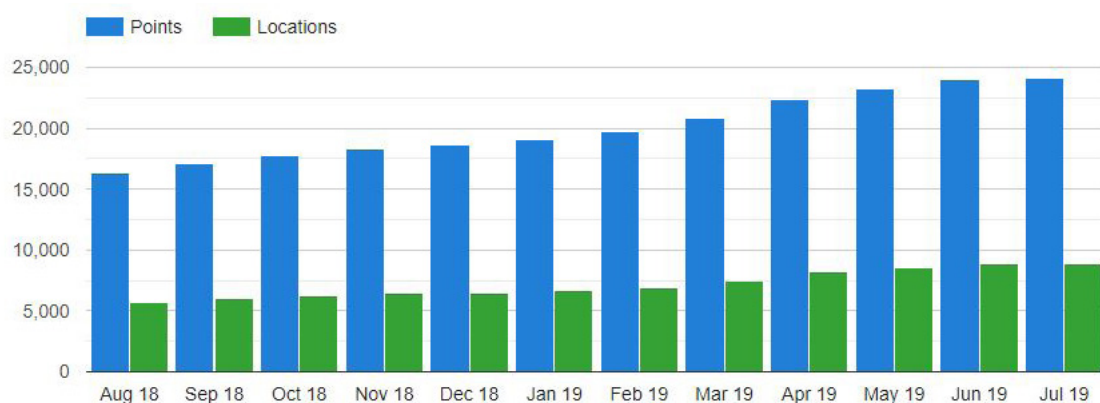
### Leading the charge

For the electric car market to grow at a sustainable and profitable rate, investment must be made into growing the charging infrastructure across Europe and, crucially, awareness of the charging network.

Once consumers are satisfied that there are sufficient charging points to ease any range anxiety, we will likely see an uplift in electric vehicle adoption.

According to the UK charging point platform, [Zap-map.com](http://Zap-map.com), there are currently (as of 31 May 2019) 23,417 charging connectors, in 13,788 devices, at 8,614 locations across the UK. The total number of connectors has increased from just over 13,000 in November 2017 to over 23,000 in May 2019, a 57% increase in just 18 months.

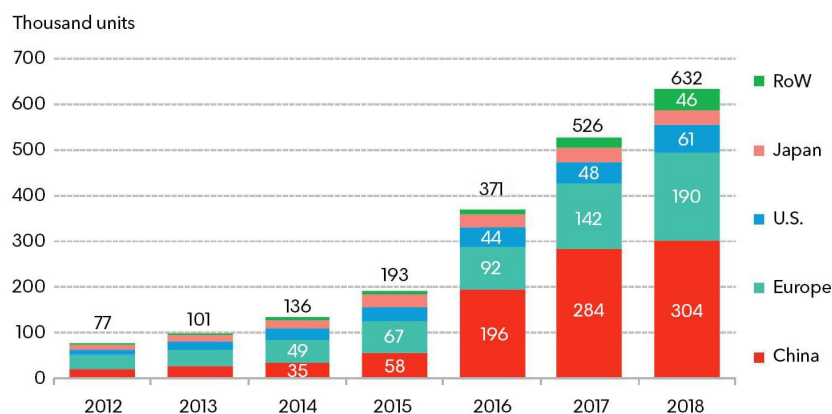
#### Number of UK charging locations and connectors over past 12 months: Zap-Map May 2019:



**ZAP MAP**

The global charging landscape looks healthy as well. There are 630,000 public charging points installed globally, as well as commercial charging points serving the utilities, oil and gas and automotive sectors. China leads the way, followed by Europe, the US and Japan in terms of volume of charging points installed.

#### Public charging outlets installed globally:



Source: BloombergNEF. Note: Data current as of January 1, 2019. Data will be updated on the BNEF data hub at the end of 1H 2019.

July 2019

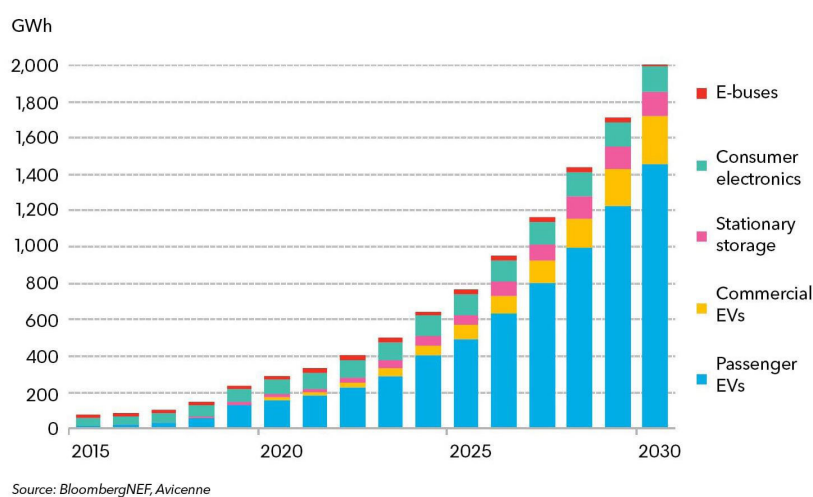
### EVB: the latest growth area

Although charging infrastructure continues to grow, resources and investment are also being routed towards battery development, exploring different options in battery types, materials and longevity.

The battery sector is naturally the major focus for growth, as battery and lithium prices continue to drop and significant investment is made into new chemistry and technology, such as single state battery development.

According to Bloomberg's EV Outlook forecast, "Lithium supply looks sufficient until at least the mid-2020s, but new cobalt and nickel mining capacity will need to come online to meet growing demand. Solid state batteries are still a decade away from use in mass-produced vehicles, but steady advances in the current family of lithium-ion batteries will bring continued improvements in energy density."

#### Annual lithium-ion battery demand:



### The global outlook

According to Bloomberg, China is expected to continue leading the market in battery manufacturing capacity for the foreseeable future, with Europe as the second largest region in this regard.

As a global market, the signs are looking good for rapid growth: it is predicted that battery cell manufacturing capacity will pass 1TWh by 2025. Further decreases in battery prices are also expected, with today's \$176/kWh per pack price projected to drop to \$87/kWh by 2025 and \$62/kWh by 2030.

In addition to lithium, high nickel chemistries are also set to emerge and start taking more market share over the next decade, widening the options for manufacturers and suppliers. In an effort to speed up the discovery and development of the ideal battery solution for the EV market, European governments are coming together to fund research and production in this area.

In early May 2019, it was announced that France and Germany were forming a consortium and launching a €multi-billion initiative into EV battery research, sourced from private European companies such as Automotive OEMs and energy businesses. With this level of European backing, the battery market is in good stead to make progress in terms of a viable and sustainable solution to meet the growing demands of the global EV industry.

July 2019

### Lightweighting and the link to fastening technology

Another concern in terms of EVB is lightweighting: as one of the heaviest components in an EV, the electric battery runs the risk of negating the idea of carbon emission reductions if the vehicle's weight increases energy consumption.

As a result, fastener companies and other members of the supply chain are constantly looking at ways to achieve gains in lightweighting, looking to industries such as aerospace for inspiration.

A McKinsey report into global lightweighting trends states that: "Lightweight materials and design have always been an important topic in product design across several industries. The concept has been most important in aviation but also in industries where large rotating parts (e.g., rotor blades of wind turbines) are key elements of product design and in automotive, where driving dynamics are a major consideration. Global trends toward CO2 reduction and resource efficiency have significantly increased the importance of this topic over the last years."



As a result of this shift towards lighter materials, industries are beginning to learn from each other. In aviation, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner is constructed largely of carbon-fibre-reinforced plastics instead of the traditional aluminium, which is inspiring automotive firms such as BMW to look at carbon-fibre for its new electric vehicle, in order to reduce the vehicle's weight and enhance the driving experience.

At TR, we work with Tier 1 suppliers such as seat manufacturers to ensure that where possible, lightweight solutions, such as the Mortorq® screw we are licensed to

manufacture by Phillips Screw Company, are used throughout vehicle applications to make weight savings and counterbalance the impact made by the battery weight.

**Fastening technology is crucial for EV and EVB manufacture, and our range includes a number of parts which are particularly relevant for EVB assembly, such as:**

- Fasteners with electrically isolating coatings
- Lightweight non-magnetic fasteners
- Battery retention bolts
- Cable management hardware
- Compression limiters

**In addition, our branded ranges comprise every component listed in a typical Bill of Materials (BOM) for EV charging units, including:**

- [Sheet metal fasteners](#)
- Thread-forming screws for [plastics/metals](#)
- [Plastic hardware](#)
- [Enclosure hardware](#)

# TR In the Spotlight

## Powering progress: the EV battery journey and its impact on the supply chain



July 2019

- [Security fasteners](#)
- [Standard fastenings](#)
- [Cable management parts](#)
- Specials and bespoke designed fasteners

### The ideal partnership

Our role in this ever-evolving market is to support and consult with our customers on the best solutions which meet the demands of the changes and developments facing their industries.

As a trusted, Full Service Provider (FSP), our engineering, design and manufacturing expertise as well as our global reach and longstanding industry experience make us the ideal partner for any firm involved in the burgeoning EV industry: from battery manufacturers to charging point manufacturers to Automotive Tier 1s and OEMs.

As a business, we constantly challenge ourselves to identify and stay on top of industry and technological trends and developments, and we do this by placing ourselves at the very heart of industry innovation. Our global technical and innovation centres in Gothenburg and the UK allow us to operate right at the centre of automotive excellence and innovation, meaning we work directly alongside the big players really making a difference in this exciting industry.

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### Featured articles:

[Fasteners in e-mobility and their impact on the supply chain - Government Europa - 28th June 2019](#)

July 2019



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July 2019



### The EV supply chain – what's next?

We continue to work with companies in this sector, producing the valuable components of EV charging units, as well as fastenings for EV battery casings and parts.

This in itself is a fascinating journey in engineering and manufacturing, as these parts need to be specially designed and produced to meet specific requirements and conditions. For example, fasteners need to have isolated coatings to ensure they do not short in the presence of electricity. Lightweighting is another key innovation in this field, as every effort is made to reduce the overall weight of EVs, whose batteries can significantly increase the weight of the vehicle.

The overwhelming support for Khan's plan poses a positive future for a revolutionary 'electric highway', with London leading the world in the ambition of 'zero-emission cities'. This collaborative cross industry initiative is an incredible opportunity for businesses to work together to make EVs a viable future for the automotive sector. The supply chain is prepared, so let the revolution commence!

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### Further reading

To learn more about our role in the development of EV and EVB technology, visit our [EV charging product page](#) or read our article on [powering progress in EVB](#).

August 2019



This week, (13/08/19) the [Government has announced an additional £2.5 million](#) to fund new electric car charging points on UK residential streets, it's clear that both consumer appetite and official policy are beginning to switch gear on the [issue of electric vehicles \(EV\)](#).

But it's still very much a chicken and egg situation. Mass consumer adoption of EVs will not become apparent until substantial charging infrastructure is visibly prevalent and not just a surprising addition to public places such as service stations and the occasional supermarket. Equally, extensive investment in infrastructure is not feasible until there are significant indications that EV take-up is growing and sustainable.

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### Meeting the 2050 net zero emissions target

The additional funding aims to encourage people to charge their cars nearer their homes, in order to meet the 2050 net zero emissions target, satisfy demand and increase the widespread adoption of electric vehicles.

However, with range anxiety one of the major factors stopping this mass take-up of EVs, it's just as important, if not more so, to invest in infrastructure throughout travel routes. In the same way that petrol stations are never more than a few miles away, it's vital that charging points become part of the fabric of our lives, available at every place we visit.

The [automotive](#), [electronics](#) and [sheet metal](#) sectors all have their part to play in this wider EV adoption story. The supply chains behind these industries must all do their best to present cost-effective, easily accessible and sustainable products and solutions to support the growing infrastructure network. The Government funding announced this week is certainly a step in the right direction but more will be needed not only to meet demand but also to assert that the government and UK PLC is ready to embrace this fundamental shift in the automotive story.

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### Facilitating large scale production

Here at TR, [we work very closely with partners, customers and OEMs](#) to ensure that all the components, materials and processes are ready to facilitate large scale production of EV charging points.

Our branded [sheet metal fasteners](#), [security fasteners](#) and [enclosure hardware](#) are all ideal for charging units and our specialist components are widely used in the [production of EV battery \(EVB\) parts and modules](#). Not only can we advise our customers on the best solutions for this evolving corner of the market but we can also provide insight-driven consultancy on the market trends and technology developments that are shaping the future of EV and charging networks.

# TR In the Spotlight

## Starting with a bang: Encouraging young people into STEM careers (Cont...)

August 2019



At TR Fastenings we are really proud to champion young engineering talent. We have long recognised the need for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills across many aspects of our business, not just in the 'traditional' engineering departments.

In this blog, we will share our experience of nurturing interest amongst young people to embark on STEM careers and in particular, the schemes and apprenticeships we are proud to run in our business.

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### What are STEM skills and why are they so important?

The rapid growth of high-tech jobs and a lack of uptake in STEM education in recent years, particularly by girls (a government report highlights that only 8% of STEM apprenticeships are undertaken by women) have combined to cause a massive shortfall in the young people suitable and available for STEM roles. This is bad news for our economy.

Why are STEM skills so important? STEM education is vital for critical thinking skills which are fundamental to innovation and business success. It's not just the tech and engineering sectors that need employees with a STEM education.

The manufacturing, R&D, financial services, medicine and healthcare sectors and more rely on young people choosing STEM career pathways. In fact, critical thinking skills are essential for innovation across almost all industries.

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### TR Fastenings gets involved in Sussex Big Bang Fair

We were delighted to be involved in the recent STEM Sussex Big Bang Fair South East. Two TR employees, Luke Murphy, HR Manager and Keith Gibb, Head of Web Development, were judges at the event to select finalists from heats for the Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineer Awards.

The event, now in its seventh year, aims to inspire young people to study STEM courses and pursue STEM careers. The Mid Sussex Times reported that more than ten thousand young people from 250 schools attended the annual event.

Luke Murphy said, *"This event is more important now than ever before. Technology around the globe is changing at such a rapid pace. We need to engage young people in STEM subjects, not only to address the current skills gap, but to ensure UK businesses are able to compete on the world stage in the future. The importance of nurturing upcoming talent has never been more pressing."*

August 2019



### Our apprenticeships

It sounds dramatic but the world would be a very different place without STEM. We need STEM to make a difference and to stay competitive in business and as a nation.

It's why we believe so passionately in investing in young people. Our two-year apprenticeship schemes offer school leavers an alternative route into a STEM career with TR Fastenings. Young people with a GCSE pass in Maths and English, who have an enthusiasm for business, good communication skills and an aptitude for learning, are invited to apply.

We also offer NVQ training in business administration and customer services.

### The future: what else needs to be done?

In 2015, the UK Commission for Employment and Skills reported that 43% of STEM vacancies were hard to fill. The skills gap has improved but there is still much work to be done by government, schools and business.

Encouraging and nurturing interest among children and young people is vital from an early age. This relies on educational policy, parents and collaboration between businesses and schools. Diversity across genders and ages also needs addressing. Supporting key influencers, (teachers, carers and parents), to help young people access STEM pathways is key.

Our young people are crucial for pushing the boundaries, making new discoveries and influencing the future of our business. STEM is the future and we're really proud to be helping young people be part of it.



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