

Press Pack | 2026



Driving success with simplified
fastener supply solutions,
world-class engineering and
manufacturing



TR Launches Immersive Datacentre 360° Experience

By TR, part of the Trifast plc Group



TR has launched a new Datacentre 360° Interactive Experience, providing a virtual walkthrough of a modern data centre and demonstrating how its fastening solutions support critical infrastructure.

As AI and digital transformation drive rapid growth in hyperscale and modular data centres, reliability and performance are more important than ever. The experience showcases TR's role across power distribution, cooling, IT hardware, fire and environmental systems, control systems, and renewable energy integration.

The experience features engineering animations, product tear-downs, and real-world applications, helping engineers, designers, and operators understand where fastening technology plays a critical role.

Explore the [Data Centre through our fully interactive 360° experience](#)





Engineering reliability in a changing world – The TR perspective

By Engineering Magazine



Sven Brehler
Director of Engineering



part of the Trifast plc Group



Engineering has shaped society for centuries, from the earliest tools to today's advanced systems. While technologies have evolved dramatically since Engineering magazine was founded 160 years ago, the core responsibility of engineers has remained the same; to deliver safe, reliable and efficient solutions that perform under real-world conditions.

At TR, that responsibility has guided the business for more than 50 years. Founded in 1973, TR has grown from a specialist fastener supplier into a global engineering partner supporting some of the world's most demanding industries. Today, as part of the Trifast plc Group, TR designs, manufactures and supplies fasteners and Category C components for automotive, smart infrastructure and medical applications across more than 65 markets worldwide.

Our role is often unseen, yet critical. From electric vehicles and medical devices to data centres and energy infrastructure, fasteners may be small, but their performance underpins the reliability, safety and longevity of the systems they support.

Supply Chain simplification

TR's approach to reducing customer supply chain complexity combines process streamlining with the implementation of appropriate supply solutions, such as monitored bin systems. This is further supported by TR's integrated engineering capabilities, which enable part number reduction through design simplification, improved efficiency and a reduction in the cost of quality.

These outcomes are delivered through successful VAVE (Value Analysis and Value Engineering) implementations that contribute to stronger supplier partnerships, helping to create leaner, more agile operations.

Focused growth driven by engineered sector expertise

Fasteners, whether standardised or manufactured to drawing, are used across almost every industry worldwide to assemble components and bring product engineers' designs to life. With a meticulous eye for detail, TR's engineers specialise in joining solutions, fastening products and their associated manufacturing methods, while building deep knowledge of the markets in which they operate. This is why early-stage collaboration with customer engineering teams is so important. While customers are specialists in their own designed products, they often have a more generalist understanding of fastening solutions and can benefit from TR's specialist expertise.

Starting my career over 25 years ago, working on a nuclear power application, I was responsible for detailing and preparing equipment for manufacture and assembly. A quick visit to the warehouse to select readily available fasteners resulted in significant design changes, ultimately delaying the project. Early involvement from a TR fastening specialist would have shortened the design cycle and potentially improved the final design.

While TR operates across multiple markets, many joining solutions are transferable from one industry to another. Adapting to and understanding industry-specific standards, requirements and materials helps to strengthen overall design capability and improve the success rates of collaborating organisations.

The engineering landscape has shifted significantly in recent years. While automotive manufacturing continues to undergo structural transformation driven by electrification and supply chain pressure, sectors such as smart infrastructure and medical



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equipment are expanding rapidly.

At TR, growth in both smart infrastructure and medical applications has offset challenges in traditional automotive markets. This reflects our deliberate focus on industries where engineering precision, regulatory compliance and lifecycle reliability are essential and where early engineering engagement adds measurable value.

Smart infrastructure is a clear example. The global expansion of data centres and digital networks is changing the demands placed on fastening solutions. Systems must support dense installations, efficient assembly and long service life. These challenges cannot be addressed through off-the-shelf product selection alone; they require collaborative engineering.

Embedding sustainability into fastener design and manufacturing

One of the most significant developments at TR has been the integration of sustainability into both product innovation and global operations.

Following an extensive R&D programme, TR has introduced new ranges of fasteners manufactured from 100% recycled nylon, delivering up to a 90% reduction in raw-material CO₂ emissions while maintaining over 80% of the mechanical performance of traditional virgin materials. This drive towards more sustainable fastener products was not only to increase TR's product range, but also to serve as a call to action for the wider fastener industry to place greater focus on sustainability.

These components including cable ties, push-lock rivets, snap rivets, drive fasteners, threaded pillars and wire saddles serve critical roles in smart

infrastructure applications such as data cabling, control systems and enclosure assembly. Until now, recycled plastics have rarely met the requirements of functional, load-bearing components. TR's breakthrough demonstrates that sustainability and engineering performance can co-exist.

Operational sustainability is also advancing at pace. At TR Italy, a major on-site solar energy installation delivered in partnership with INVECO, now powers the majority of the facility's manufacturing operations.

This supports both carbon reduction and long-term energy resilience. The investment forms part of a wider ESG strategy that includes improved resource efficiency, waste reduction and deployment of arc-furnace steel to lower embodied carbon in metallic components.

From fastener supplier to full-service engineering partner

As customer expectations evolve, TR has shifted from traditional product supply towards engineering-led partnership with collaboration driving innovation in bespoke components. For a global monitor manufacturer, TR developed a unique push-screw fastener capable of repeated use without degradation, a solution unavailable anywhere else in the market.

Similarly, for a leading EV customer, TR's engineering teams across the US and Sweden co-developed a complex spring and spool assembly that enables smooth, controlled movement of a central console mechanism.

These projects demonstrate how TR's engineers support customers throughout the full development cycle, from concept and prototyping





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part of the Brüel & Kjær Group



to testing, validation and global supply.

Engineering resilience through a global manufacturing network

TR's ability to support customers worldwide is underpinned by its international manufacturing footprint and a consistent, engineering-led approach that aligns standards, capability and operational excellence across regions. This ensures customers benefit from reliable manufacturing performance, simplified supply chains and continuous innovation, regardless of location.

In Germany, sustained investment has expanded capacity and strengthened TR's ability to support automotive, medical and smart infrastructure customers across Central Europe.

In Singapore, the introduction of a vacuum solvent cleaning system has replaced kerosene-based processes, improving safety, air quality and environmental performance while supporting cleaner, more efficient manufacturing operations.

Across its global footprint, TR's Engineering and Innovation Centres enable rapid problem-solving, advanced testing and close collaboration with customers, ensuring engineering expertise remains central to manufacturing quality, supply chain optimisation and product innovation worldwide.

Developing future engineering capability through collaboration and education

With the engineering sector facing a sustained skills shortage, TR contributes to capability-building through education and hands-on experience. Our continued sponsorship of the KTH Formula Student Stockholm team equips young engineers to apply theory to real-world challenges, from lightweighting and structural fasteners to

high-voltage cabling and advanced materials.

This investment helps ensure that the engineering talent of tomorrow enters the industry with strong practical foundations.

Looking ahead - TR's engineering priorities beyond 2026

As engineering enters a new era defined by digitalisation, sustainability and intelligent systems, fasteners will continue to play a fundamental role.

AI-driven design and predictive modelling will influence how components are optimised. Material innovation, particularly in recycled and lower-carbon alternatives will accelerate. Supply chains will become more integrated, requiring greater transparency and engineering input earlier in the design cycle.

TR will remain focused on three priorities:

1. Engineering-led innovation: Advancing materials, performance and fastening technology.
2. Sustainable operations: Reducing carbon footprint across global manufacturing.
3. Collaborative partnership: Supporting customers from concept through to production, with solutions tailored to sector-specific challenges.

If the past 160 years of engineering show us anything, it is that progress depends on resilience, expertise and a willingness to adapt. At TR, our focus is on delivering fastening solutions that support the next generation of engineering through performance, responsibility and global capability.



Introducing our Virtual Innovation Centre: An immersive engineering platform

By TR, part of Trifast plc Group



We are proud to announce the launch of our Virtual Innovation Centre, a next-generation digital platform designed to provide an immersive, interactive view of our engineering capabilities, product innovation and operational expertise.

The Virtual Innovation Centre offers a fully interactive 360° environment, enabling users to explore solutions in real-world contexts. Through rich multimedia content, including videos, animations, and in-depth technical insights, visitors can engage with our technologies in a dynamic and meaningful way.

The platform delivers practical insights across key areas such as product optimisation, application engineering and teardown analysis, helping users better understand performance and design considerations.

It also provides end-to-end visibility of our supply chain capabilities, including vendor-managed inventory and advanced distribution solutions.

Users can navigate dedicated sector experiences tailored to industries such as automotive, smart infrastructure and data centres, ensuring relevance and clarity for diverse applications.

In addition, the Virtual Innovation Centre highlights our commitment to sustainability, showcasing investments in renewable energy integration and circular material development.

This platform reflects a fundamental shift in how we engage, moving beyond static content to an experience-led approach that enables deeper understanding, faster decision-making and stronger collaboration.

[Start your tour: The Virtual Innovation Centre is available to explore.](#)



International Women in Engineering Day: Celebrating the Women Shaping Our Future

By TR, part of Trifast plc Group

Nicola Howard
Head of IT Operations



Ilaria Balzano
Product Engineer



Grainne Lawlor
Chief Information Officer



To mark International Women in Engineering Day, TR Group is celebrating the talented women across its global business who are helping to drive innovation, solve complex challenges, and shape the future of engineering and technology.

This year the spotlight falls on three colleagues, Grainne Lawlor, Ilaria Balzano and Nicola Howard, whose careers and contributions highlight the diverse opportunities available within the industry.

Grainne Lawlor, Chief Information Officer

As Chief Information Officer, Grainne Lawlor leads Technology, Digital, Data, and Cyber Security across TR Group globally.

Grainne's career began in finance before progressing through product management, programme leadership, and large-scale technology transformation roles across international businesses.

Driven by a passion for problem-solving and continuous innovation, Grainne believes technology and engineering work hand in hand to transform ideas into practical solutions that deliver real value.

"The people are what I enjoy most about my role," she said. "Working with talented teams across the globe to solve complex challenges and deliver meaningful outcomes is incredibly rewarding. There is always something new to learn, which is one of the many reasons I still find the industry as exciting today as when I first entered it."

For women and girls considering a career in technology, her advice is simple: "Be curious, be confident, and never be afraid to take the next step, even when you don't have all the answers. If you're willing to learn, ask questions and embrace change, you'll find there is no limit to where a career in technology can take you. And if technology teaches us anything, it's that standing still is rarely the best option."

Ilaria Balzano, Product Engineer, Research and Development

Ilaria has been part of the Research & Development team for the past eight years, contributing to the development of innovative products and engineering solutions.

After graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, Ilaria joined the company and has spent the last eight years developing her expertise as a Product Engineer.

Her passion for engineering began with a fascination for understanding how things work and a desire to create practical, tangible solutions.

"I wanted a career that would allow me to contribute to the development of products that make a real-world impact," she explains.

"What I enjoy most is the dynamic nature of product engineering. No two days are the same, and I love the collaborative process of taking an idea on paper and turning it into a





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functional product.

Working closely with colleagues across different disciplines to solve challenges and bring new ideas to life is incredibly rewarding.”

“Engineering and technology are fields open to anyone with curiosity and passion. The industry deeply needs different perspectives and sensitivities to truly innovate.

My advice is to always bring your unique ideas and personal touch to the team with confidence and peace of mind, because diversity is a true asset to any project.”

Nicola Howard, Head of IT Operations

As Head of IT Operations, Nicola Howard leads TR Group’s global IT function across Europe, Asia, and the United States, overseeing service delivery, infrastructure, and support.

Nicola’s route into technology was unconventional, beginning in customer service management with British Airways before transitioning into IT leadership. The experience helped her develop strong problem-solving and leadership skills that continue to support her success today.

“Technology offers constant opportunities to learn and make a real impact,” said Nicola. “I enjoy working with people, building strong teams, and helping deliver meaningful change across the business.”

Her advice to the next generation is to challenge perceptions about the industry. “There are many

different career paths within technology, and there is space for a wide range of skills and perspectives,” she said. “Stay curious, keep learning, and believe that you belong in this space.”

Celebrating Women in Engineering

International Women in Engineering Day provides an opportunity to recognise the achievements of women across engineering and technology while encouraging future generations to explore careers in these fields.

At TR Group, women like Grainne, Ilaria, and Nicola continue to demonstrate the value of diverse perspectives, leadership, and innovation in driving progress across the business and the wider industry.





TR Singapore Coastal Clean Up at Woodlands Waterpark

By TR, part of Trifast plc Group



As part of our ongoing commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the TR Singapore team recently participated in a coastal clean-up initiative at Woodlands Waterpark.

Located in the north of Singapore, Woodlands Waterpark is a beautiful National Park with a long promenade with views of the Straits of Johor and is home to a diverse range of wildlife, making it a popular destination for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Bringing employees together outside of the workplace, the event provided an opportunity to make a positive impact on the local environment while reinforcing our shared commitment to sustainability.

At TR, environmental responsibility is one of our core values. We recognise that protecting natural ecosystems requires collective effort and meaningful action. Through this hands-on clean-up activity, team members worked together to remove litter and debris from the shoreline, helping to preserve the area's natural beauty and prevent waste from entering surrounding waterways and marine habitats.

By actively participating in the clean-up, employees gained a greater appreciation for the challenges facing our coastal environments and the role individuals and organisations can play in creating positive change.

Beyond the environmental benefits, the event encouraged teamwork, collaboration, and a strong sense of community among our colleagues. This coastal clean-up reflects TR's broader commitment to minimising our environmental impact and supporting a more sustainable future.

We are proud of the enthusiasm and dedication shown by the TR Singapore team and thank everyone who took part in making the initiative a success. Through activities such as these, we continue to turn our values into action and strengthen our commitment to building a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for generations to come.





TR receives Flex Supplier Sustainability Award 2025

By TR, part of Trifast plc Group



TR, part of the Trifast plc Group, is proud to announce that it has been awarded First Place in the Achieved GHG Structured Target category at the Flex Supplier Sustainability Award 2025.

Presented by Flex, a leading global manufacturing partner, the award recognises suppliers that have demonstrated exceptional commitment and progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through structured sustainability initiatives.

This recognition is a significant milestone for TR and reflects the organisation's ongoing dedication to sustainability, innovation, and responsible business practices. The award highlights the impact of collaborative efforts across the value chain and reinforces the importance of working together to achieve meaningful environmental progress.

"It is a proud honour to receive this award from such a great partner.

This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our employees, whose commitment to sustainability continues to drive positive change across our operations and partnerships"

"We look forward to achieving our goals together in making our world a better, cleaner and safer place."

Rhett Tyler Business Development Manager

The award aligns with TR's broader sustainability strategy and long-term goals to reduce environmental impact, strengthen climate action initiatives, and create lasting value for customers, partners, and communities.

TR looks forward to continuing its partnership with Flex and advancing shared sustainability objectives that contribute to a more sustainable future.

