

Albright CONTACT

Issue 6

Albright Deutschland Relocate to New Purpose Built Premises

Albright Deutschland has relocated to new purpose built premises in the thriving quarter of "ÜberseeStadt" in the city of Bremen. The new 3 storey premises consists of 400m² offices, a Design Centre (70m² for manufacturing development and a 24m² Laboratory) and 180m² warehouse. This investment in Albright Deutschland was instigated by continued economic growth and has enabled a fit for purpose premises to be developed.



The Albright Deutschland team outside their new offices

The larger premises have provided Albright Deutschland with the opportunity to unify and expand warehouse capacities, create a productive working environment and establish the new Design Centre which incorporates a test laboratory and manufacturing plant for the new business segment of Li-Ion batteries. Furthermore, it meets current requirements in matters of environmental protection and sustainability.

The new Design Centre is a cooperation facility with Albright UK enabling the development of new contactor products both for German and Global markets, and for new products including Battery Management Systems.

Albright Deutschland was established in 2009 to manage sales for Germany, Austria and Switzerland, initially

employing 5 people it has now grown to 11 employees. This positive move for Albright Deutschland not only reflects its success but also ensures the continuation of a reliable service to its valued customers and maintains the high quality and standards of both the Albright products and our processes.

Albright Deutschland Exhibiting at CeMAT, 19 - 23 May

With our long history in the Materials Handling Industry, Albright Deutschland will be exhibiting at the CeMAT Exhibition in Hannover, Germany between 19th and 23rd May, on behalf of the Albright Group.

CeMAT is the primary event in the Intralogistics Industry calendar which this year will be operating with the motto "Smart -Integrated- Efficient". CeMAT provides the opportunity to attain a understanding of the Intralogistics Industry with hoisting gear, material

handling vehicles, cranes, access platforms, auto-ID systems, robot logistics and packaging apparatus all featuring at the exhibition.

Albright Deutschland will be greeting visitors at Stand K28, Hall 26 where we will be available for advice and showcasing our latest contactor products suitable for the intralogistic industry.

For further information on CeMAT please refer to the official website:

www.cemat.de



Albright France Celebrates 15 Years in Business



Albright France purpose built premises in La Rochelle, France

2014 heralds Albright France's 15th year in business. Initially set up and operating from Paris in 1999, Albright France was established to support the French market which includes fork lift trucks, aerial platforms, marine equipment, electrical vehicle and D.C. charger manufacturers. Offering customers dedicated support and service as well as

providing technical knowledge on D.C. applications.

Since 2009, Albright France has been located in La Rochelle in a purpose built facility, a strategic move which strengthened our service to our customer base.

During its 15 years in business, Albright France has witnessed a growth in its

customer base, with new customers gained in the Telecoms, Material Handling and Electric Vehicles industries. Looking to the future, Albright France will continue its focus on customer service, sustaining the high standards for quality and reliability synonymous with Albright and supporting the expanding product line of Albright.

Throughout the last 15 years, Hervé Lefort has successfully managed Albright France ensuring its continued attainment of the business goals within the Albright Group.

Investment in UK Manufacturing to Gain Further Benefits for our Customers



New CNC machine

As a progressive, customer focused company, Albright is continuously looking to improve to the benefit of our customers. A focus for 2014 is our European manufacturing facilities, which includes investment in the UK with 3 new CNC machines. These machines will not only increase our capacity, but more importantly provide state of the art CNC capability. Additionally, we have designed and manufactured in-house

our own induction brazing system, which we commissioned successfully and so have undertaken the building of 2 more, thus increasing our capacity in this area.

In the advancement of techniques within our assembly units we have introduced a vision inspection system to sit as a final stage on a semi-automatic assembly line. This has the capability to check many external elements of a completed switch within seconds.

It assists us in our drive to build right first time and deliver a repeatable process to our customers. We have also advanced our auto test facilities and during the coming weeks will commission an in-house designed electrical system. This will give full diagnostics of a contactor under test and it will record all test data, keeping it logged against

the switches unique coding.

All of these investment developments will ensure that Albright continue to deliver high quality, reliable and innovative contactors to our customers and will result in a reduction in our lead times so that we can supply our customers even faster with their Albright products. This investment in manufacturing is just part of what Albright has planned for 2014 and 2015.



Machining section - Whitchurch, UK

Investment sees Expansion of Laboratory at Whitchurch

Albright International has always prided itself in being manufacturers of contactors with an established in-house laboratory to develop and test our innovatively designed contactors. To further enhance our capability in this field, and in line with our expansion of development facilities in the UK and Germany, we have invested in a new laboratory at our Head Office in Whitchurch.

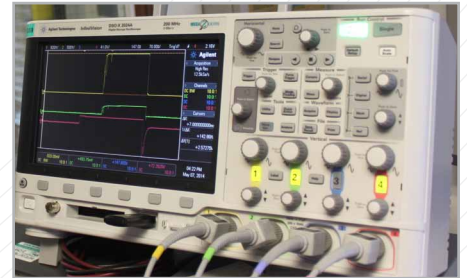
Our new facility is 30% larger in size with a 50% increase in the capacity for battery testing resulting in twice the power, with the new batteries allowing us to test higher voltages. A further new addition to the laboratory is the ability to remote test for the more dangerous testing such as when higher voltages are used. The remote testing capability further improves the safety features of our laboratory.

As before, our new laboratory includes a clean lab room where electronic and visual inspections/tests are carried out, a life testing area which is used for "dirty" environment testing and thermal

tests and a storage archive for retaining historical tests.

Albright tests use empirical test methods to validate its products; where empirical results are derived and guided by practical experience and not just the theory. Indeed, our Laboratory Manager, Wayne Archer believes the success of the lab is based upon its practical flexibility and its search for continuous improvements.

Our laboratory undertakes testing on new products, existing products where there have been changes to the usage set up (either by our design or customers' requirements) and on the rare occasion where a fault has occurred. In addition, it is utilised for UL witness testing. Performance, electrical life and safety tests are all performed and most customer situations can be replicated as we have the ability to conduct capacitive, inductive and resistance testing. Test duration can range from minutes to months depending on the complexity of the test and customer requirements, whether it has been done before and



what set up may be required in order to conduct the test.

The laboratory has the ability to perform bespoke tests, reproducing customer situations in a test environment, which can involve developing equipment to create the specific requirements of the test environment.

Overall, our new laboratory at Whitchurch provides a larger, safe and more efficient testing environment which results in higher capacities for testing which can only further benefit our customers.

3rd Generation takes the Helm at Albright

October 2013 saw the appointment of Luke Bedggood as Managing Director of Albright International Ltd, becoming the 3rd generation of Bedggood to undertake this role in the family business which began in 1946. Luke joined Albright in 1999 and since 2005 has been a member of the Board of Directors and is experienced in all Albright affairs. Nigel Bedggood remains in the role of Company Chairman.

As Managing Director, Luke remains committed to investment within the Albright companies, to not only maintain, but maximise value to our customers with the delivery of high quality, reliable products. Equally important is upholding the Albright standards and processes on which the reputation of the company has been established.

Luke continues with the company objectives of providing high quality originally designed products at competitive prices with a first class customer service. Achieving this through investment, concentrating on the development of new products for the many markets we service and continuing to apply proven methods to further our success.

Luke is proud to have the opportunity to lead the family run company, one which designs its own products and is dedicated to the requirements of its customers.

For more information on current investment opportunities being commenced see articles on Albright Deutschland (p.1), UK Manufacturing (p.2) and the new laboratory facility (p.3).



Luke Bedggood, Managing Director

Employee Focus: Simon Clark, Technical Manager, Albright International



Simon Clark, Technical Manager, Albright International

Each newsletter we focus on one of our dedicated and valued team members. For this sixth edition we introduce Simon Clark, Technical Manager, Albright International.

Simon joined Albright International in September 2013. Prior to this, Simon worked at HoMedics in the role of European Head of Quality, managing ISO19001 and the medical equivalent ISO13485. Simon attained a degree in Mechanical Engineering, having been sponsored by Rolls Royce and then joining them as a development engineer for jet engines.

In order to broaden his working experience and gain more understanding of a commercial environment, Simon joined Kenwood Ltd, where he worked for over 20 years. In this time he taught himself electronics to gain a broader knowledge of systems design and achieved the

role of Director of Advanced Engineering. During his time at Kenwood Ltd, Simon was responsible for setting up a motor winding factory in China and introducing a new motor drive system which led to a 90% market share for food mixers and a new microprocessor for the food mixer product which was the 1st for the industry.

As a new employee to Albright, Simon has noted that Albright has a friendly work atmosphere; we have an extensive product range with many variants which highlights the flexibility offered to our customers. With regards to the primary role of the Technical Department, Simon states they are to manage all technical enquiries, offering advice and support to ensure provision of the best product and price for a customer's application and oversee new product development which could be new variations of existing products, brand new products or technologies. In addition, the Technical Department liaise with our Production unit assisting resolution of any technical issues.

When discussing future plans for the Technical Department, Simon is keen to focus on new product development such as new contactor ranges for the overseas market. Furthermore, his intention is to strengthen links with Production to ensure the manufacturing capability for any new products, and Sales to maximise opportunities for increasing efficiency. Ultimately, these objectives will further enhance the service provided to

our customers'.

On a final note, Simon reflects, having spent over 20 years in businesses which have moved production to other countries it is refreshing to be in a company where there is investment and a future in UK manufacturing.

About Albright

Albright International is a privately owned company, founded in 1946. Initially, the company manufactured specialist switch gear to customers' designs, beginning the manufacture of the Albright contactor range in 1955 which started the strong tradition of designing and manufacturing its own products.

Albright International operates from our Head Office at Whitchurch in the South of England, in modern well-equipped offices and factories. Additionally, Albright has two wholly owned factories in China and Lithuania, manufacturing to our high quality standards. Sales offices in France, Germany and Japan complete our international coverage.

With a network of worldwide agents and distributors we can evaluate new applications, provide technical support and supply our original design D.C. contactors and spares throughout the world.

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