

An III Indutrade organisation

# Newsletter

May 2025 Issue

#SealingTheFuture



## to Drive Growth, Innovation, and Efficiency

Leading engineering and manufacturing firm Beldam Crossley has announced a major investment of £650,000 in cutting-edge equipment and facility upgrades to enhance production capabilities, meet increasing demand, and drive operational efficiency.

The Bolton-based company, renowned for its precision, innovation, and reliability, has allocated £130,000 of the investment to the installation of two Kardex machines. These state-of-the-art automated storage and retrieval systems have transformed material handling, improved security, and optimised space utilisation, ensuring seamless operations.

In the image, you can see Dave, the Managing Director, Gareth, the Sales Director, and Chris, the Finance Director.

#### **PTFE PROFILE**

# Increased Capacity

A further £280,000 has been invested in advanced machinery incorporating the latest programming software. This new equipment delivers greater accuracy, higher tolerance points on parts, and improved consistency—especially in the production of complex, high-volume PTFE components and a wide range of machined materials. Notably, the machinery is more energy-efficient, aligning with the company's commitment to sustainability.

### 2024 – A RECORD YEAR!

2024 closed on a high, with an 18.2% increase in sales intake compared to the previous year. This growth was spread across key product groups, with the Skidway systems seeing the highest demand. Ian Harbottle, Divisional Manager supported the PTFE development finding new applications for bearings and Skidways

The surge in Skidway orders prompted a swift response: Jonathan, Innovation and CI Manager, quickly revised the factory

production plan, and
James, Engineering
Manager, sourced a
new press from
Holland. Their
collaborative
response
demonstrated the
company's core values:
Customer Focus, One Team, and
Innovation.



Ian Harbottle



#### **Welcome Richard**

Applications Engineer

Beldam Crossley proudly welcomes Richard, their new Applications Engineer. An expert in custom polymer blending and performance optimisation, Richard is exploring new applications for PTFE products across diverse industries.

Welcome aboard. Richard!



Throughout 2023 and 2024, Beldam Crossley staff engaged in workshops to define a shared purpose and working expectations. The resulting values blend traditional principles of respect, quality, and support with a renewed focus on learning, innovation, and responsiveness.

Promotional displays throughout the workplace now reflect these values. Dave Haxton, Managing Director, explains:

"Defining three simple values with everyone's input and setting clear working examples has created a daily reference point. It ensures our workplace fosters personal and professional fulfilment."

#### He adds:

"If issues arise, we can identify which value needs support and improve alignment. While full deployment across the community will take time, the 2023–2024 collaboration highlighted the best elements of our culture, placing them at the core of our future."

#### Dave concludes:

"Our focus on Customer Focus, One Team, Continuous Improvement, and Innovation will bring great value to both existing and new customers, solidifying Beldam Crossley as a trusted partner providing engineered solutions to the world's most critical challenges."

# UK-MADE CUSTOM POLYMER SEALS: A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION



Custom polymer seals, especially those made with PTFE, glass, carbon fibre, and graphene, are durable and sustainable. Beldam Crossley leads in providing these long-lasting solutions.

#### Key Benefits:

- Enhanced strength and durability
- Improved component protection
- Long-term cost savings
- Environmentally sustainable



Custom seals made from PTFE blends are a far more sustainable choice than their other basic plastic counterparts. Due to their exceptional longevity and resistance to degradation, these seals require fewer replacements over time, which leads to a reduced consumption of raw materials.

This durability means fewer resources are consumed for manufacturing, transport, and disposal of parts. Furthermore, because these seals last significantly longer than traditional plastics, the need for frequent production and disposal is diminished, contributing to a reduced overall environmental footprint.

By reducing the need for replacements and enhancing the performance of critical components, custom seals made from PTFE, with natural elements and recycled plastics, are contributing to a more sustainable future.

Since 1876, Beldam Crossley has had a solid track record of providing industrial sealing technology that protects lives, investments, and environments.

#### **QUALITY MATTERS**

Beldam Crossley has successfully renewed some of its certifications:

ISO14001 (Environmental)

ISO45001 (Health & Safety)

AS9100 (Quality) – Held for 34 years!



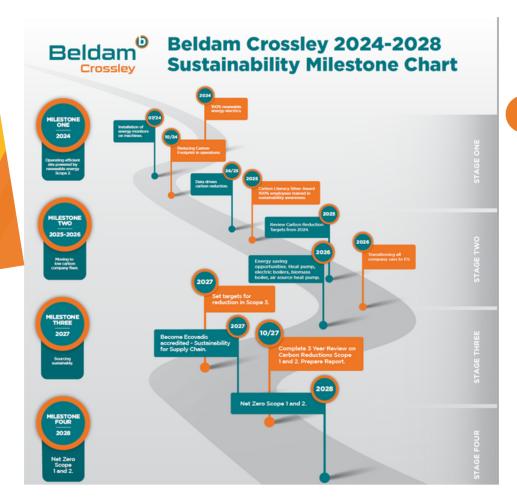
Securing our AS9100 for a 34th consecutive year is a testament to the team here and a consistent commitment to the highest standards.

Gordon Maxwell - SHEQ Manager, Beldam Crossley









#### OUR SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP:

#### IN THE FAST LANE!

Following 2021 ESG training from Be Ethical Training, Beldam Crossley developed a Sustainability Roadmap aligned with Indutrade targets.

Led by Sustainability Manager Slavka, the company is surpassing expectations:

- Scope 1: Reduced 111 tCO2e from 2023 levels; Net Zero goal by 2028 (Indutrade target: 2030).
- Scope 2: Achieved 100% renewable electricity in 2024—six years ahead of schedule!



Beldam Crossley is now the UK's sole manufacturer of tank hatch seals, pressure-tested to DNV standards and approved by the US Coast Guard.

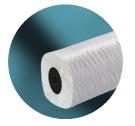
The company supplies emergency-use items to various European docks for chemical and fuel oil tankers (IMO2, IMO3) and land-based tanker operations. To improve delivery speed and environmental protection, Lidpack 3801L stock is now available in Istanbul, reducing shipping time from three weeks to two days.



SEM Endustriyel, led by distributor Onur—a marine engineer and former Navy member—partners with Beldam Crossley. Onur's expertise in elastomers and thermoplastic engineering ensures top-tier sealing solutions for marine and industrial clients.

Their joint services include on-board inspections, hatch repairs, installation supervision, and local stock management. The partnership, launched in 2024, aims to shift Beldam Crossley from a manufacturer to a strategic partner offering technical support and next-day delivery.







Onur and Lee exhibiting at Expomaritt, Istanbul



Founded in the year 1876, Beldam Crossley sprang forth from the visionary mind of Asplan Beldam, whose legacy is deeply entwined with the Marine Engineering Industry.

Asplan, a luminary of the Victorian era, emerged as a pivotal figure in the annals of UK industry. His illustrious memberships with the Institutes of Naval Architects and Mechanical Engineers culminated in the honour of being the inaugural president of the Institute of Marine Engineers. A man of remarkable intellect and vigour, he honed his craft through hands-on experience in various shipyards and engineering establishments. By the tender age of 26, he ascended to the roles of general manager and chief designer of both ships and engines at the Allibon Noyes shipyard along the storied Thames in London.

From the outset, innovation was his guiding star, as he tirelessly pursued enhancements in engine efficiency, emerging as a pioneer in the realm of higher steam pressures. The prevailing wisdom of the time suggested that elevated steam pressures could yield greater power from every pound of coal consumed. Yet, this theoretical promise posed challenges for engineers in practice, leading many to adhere cautiously to the safe confines of 30-40 lb per square inch—the standard for most steam boilers.

Undeterred, Asplan, after conducting successful trials, transformed the landscape by designing and patenting a boiler capable of producing steam at an extraordinary pressure of 150 lb per square inch.

Such elevated pressures and exceptional engineering necessitated the use of superior packing seals, marking the inception of a remarkable tale...

In the next issue: Unveil the record-breaking achievements born from Asplan's groundbreaking inventions.



Asplan Beldam

(1841-1912)

#### THE POWER OF PRODUCTION

#### Unlocking the potential in manufacturing production can wield a tremendous influence on triumph...

- Martin: Harnessing Lidpack core offcuts to conserve resources while elegantly sidestepping waste disposal.
  - · A warm welcome to Pankajuma & Yik, who have joined the Beldam Crossley Operations team.
- · Kudos to Brian, Martin, and the dedicated Lidpack and warehouse teams for orchestrating the consignment stock order for our expeditors in Istanbul.
  - · Applause for the Maintenance Team, under Matt's leadership, as they meticulously remap the warehouse transforming the layout in anticipation of exciting new developments.



The new smart storage system has improved delivery times to customers and opened up space to evolve a new production line - watch this space for a new product launch!

SUSTAINABLE **STARS** WITH **SLAVKA** 



#### Carbon Literacy: Small Changes, Big Impact!

Carbon Literacy Training shows how small changes can make a big difference:

- Save money by reducing waste
- Boost reputation through sustainability
- Engage teams and drive innovation
- Future-proof your business

#### Recent savings include:

£7000+ from metal recycling (15 tCO2e)

£3600 in gas savings over 6 months (8.3 tCO2e)

Total: £10,600 and 23.5 tCO2e saved

Thanks to Lee, Jordan, and Harry Thompson for leading these projects.

Managing Director David Haxton and Finance Director Chris Partington attended the Indutrade Industrial and Engineering Conference in Gothenburg this spring. The event focused on the theme of "Winning Teams," bringing together leaders from across the Indutrade group.

Indutrade, Beldam Crossley's Swedish-based parent company, exemplifies successful private equity ownership. It operates more than 200 companies globally, championing entrepreneurship and decentralised leadership.







#### Find us at key industry events this year!



AND ... **ACTION!** 



Coming soon -a new series of insight films from Beldam Crossley in 2025!

Find us on YouTube

## Sea Work Southampton UK 10-12th June HZU Stand SB26



**Road Transport EXPO** 

Warwickshire 24TH-26TH June Stand GR10



We will be showcasing the Lid Pack & Man Lid Seal product ranges contact us now to book a meeting.

enquiries@beldamcrossley.co.uk

# FLYING HIGH WITH CORDSEAL **Beldam Crossley's Cordseal product is** featured in major renewable aviation projects.

Clean Sky 2: Europe's largest aviation research programme, aiming to reduce aircraft CO2 and noise emissions.

The Cordseal team continues to uphold the highest standards of quality and precision.

