

Hello and Welcome,

What a summer it has been, great weather and loads of evidence that the construction sector is leading the country out of five very tough economic years. Since May our Major Contracts order book has quadrupled from, £4m to £16m. Maintenance has followed with year on year orders up 30% and our insurance division has seen its first quarterly increase in claim volumes for 18 months.

Our Major Contracts team live in the 'Real World' when it comes to the economy, they were the first to be hit with a drop in orders in 2008/9 and they are the first to see an upturn, the speed at which it has happened has though surprised us all - I have never seen our order book quadruple in 13 weeks!

"Beware a rising market" is the advise I was recently given, good advice, blocks are now out to 8 weeks, bricks to 12 weeks and steel has gone from 3 weeks to 9 weeks. All this will feed into inflation and there is no industry capacity to absorb this; in short construction prices are on the rise.

Finally, thank you to everyone who voted for me at the Lincolnshire Business Awards. To receive the lifetime achievement award in front of my peers, at the age of 47 was a very proud moment for me. I was literally speechless as the audience of 400 witnessed. I will try my hardest to live up the accolade.



I hope you enjoy this newsletter
Best Regards



Steve Gelder MBE



Gelder Group's Partnership with HMP Lincoln to Continue

Gelder Educational Training have signed a new 12 month contract with Milton Keynes College to continue the provision of construction-related training courses to inmates of HMP Lincoln. The contract, worth in excess of £160,000, firmly cements the partnership between the Group, Prison and College and significantly enhances the chances of rehabilitation for ex-offenders. By offering practical training in fully-operational workshops, the Gelder Training Academy gives the course attendees a strong career grounding on which to develop their employability and help achieve a better life upon release from prison. Mike Johnson MBE, Gelder Group Training Manager, comments "I'm delighted to announce that the Group can continue its good work in our local prison. As an employer, the Group is able to provide genuine employment opportunities for ex-offenders, in line with Government objectives. It is fantastic that the Gelder Group have been recognised as an organisation that can have such a valuable input into the rehabilitation of these individuals".



Pictured: Gelder group Managing Director Steve Gelder (Left) and Kevin Straughan of Milton Keynes College signing the 12 months contract.

Gelder Group become the first commercial organisation ever to hold the naming rights to Lincoln City's Sincil Bank Stadium



Pictured: Steve Gelder, Managing Director Gelder Group & Russell Moore, Commercial Manager Lincoln City FC.

The sponsorship deal will run for the duration of the 2013/14 season and has seen the stadium re-named 'The Gelder Group Sincil Bank Stadium'. This is the largest commercial sponsorship deal in Gelder Group's history, Lincoln City Football Club's Commercial Manager Russell Moore comments "We are all looking forward to working closely with a company of Gelder Group's standing within the business community, both locally and nationally". Group Managing Director Steve Gelder added "We were approached by the club at our 4th July, 25 Years in Business celebrations. The proposal felt like a good idea at the time but we needed to sleep on it, consider any pitfalls and agree exactly what level of support we could provide", adding "The club have been great, and since the announcement we've received many positive messages. I hope that our involvement and support will help spur the team on to have a great season".

Amazing few weeks for Major Contracts Division



An order for a new £1.1m Arts and Drama block for Kesteven and Grantham Girl's School became the latest secured order for our Major Contract's Division in what has been an amazing few weeks. Other orders include a new classrooms block at Broughton Primary School at £2.4m, a £2.1m refurbishment of Cleethorpes Leisure Centre, a new £0.8m production facility for Redhill Farm and a new £2.1m fire station (pictured left) in Retford. The division now has a full order book and is recruiting in all areas so if you're a construction professional that would like a change in culture please get in touch.

Appointments



Richard Appleton has recently joined the Gelder Education Training team as Work Based Learning Manager. Richard has previously worked with colleges, training providers, councils and businesses in the successful delivery of apprenticeships and other vocational training. He is delighted to be involved in the innovative expansion plans for GET.



Simon Davies has recently joined our Birmingham Office team working with our Insurance Repair and Renovation Division as a contract Manager. Simon is very experienced in the building repair sector and is looking forward to the challenges ahead.



Margaret Sharman joined the Training team in August as Education Development Manager; her role is to develop links with schools and the education sector and also to deliver the Group's Preparation for Work Readiness course. Margaret joins us from Lincolnshire Co-op.

Gelder Group Environmental Park Welcomes new Feathery Guests

Six Barn Owl eggs were found in the owl tower at our head office in September. When we returned in October with licensed bird ringer Steve Wain to inspect the nest box, we discovered two beautifully fluffy owls had been hatched - a fantastic find considering how late in the season the eggs were laid.



Pictured: One of the Two Owls hatched at Head Office.

Top Safety Accreditation for the Gelder Group

Following a two day level 5 Audit, our Maintenance Division have received accreditation from Achilles. Achilles qualifies, evaluates and monitors suppliers' so that buyers for the world's largest corporations can develop long term, mutually beneficial relationships with reliable suppliers.



We now have access to over 1,000 individual buyers' and through the online services will be able to demonstrate our compliance and improvement against a leading standard of excellence.

Nick Adkinson Receives 'Team of Champions' Cup



Nick Adkinson has become the 7th recipient of the Gelder 'Team of Champions' cup for the development of the groups market leading Insurance Repair and Renovation IT claims management tool. The system has set

the group apart from its peers and attracted interest from across the industry.

Pictured: Nick (Right) receiving his award from Group MD, Steve Gelder MBE.

Diary Dates

12th November - East Midlands Property & Business Investment Show, East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, Stand 44

25th November 2013 - I Love Claims Conference - Ricoh Arena, Coventry.