

In brief...

Barloworld Handling's "lifting environmental standards" campaign is starting to deliver benefits to the business, with the company's Midlands Regional Centre at West Bromwich the latest of its sites to be recommended by British Standards Institute (BSI) auditors for ISO 14001 certification.

ISO 14001 is an internationally-recognised standard for identifying, controlling and improving an organisation's environmental performance, which Barloworld is targeting as part of its on-going sustainability commitment.

www.barloworld.co.uk

SSI Schaefer has won the contract to provide NBTY Europe with an automated system expected to revolutionise its capabilities within the ecommerce market. Currently breaking into the e-com industry, NBTY Europe, the parent company of the retail brands Holland & Barrett Holland, GNC UK, Nature's Way Ireland and De Tuinen Holland, has recently experienced significant growth within this area. To effectively serve its Holland & Barrett online customers, NBTY are installing an automated system into their DC with the help of SSI Schaefer.

www.ssi-schaefer.co.uk

Flexi Narrow Aisle, has announced that in the first six months of 2012 orders for its Flexi range of articulated forklifts reached record levels.

Overall sales were up 60 per cent on the corresponding period last year. This builds on the company's performance in 2011 when annual global order intake reached an all-time high. The company has achieved significant success in developing the international market. Flexis are now sold in over 40 countries worldwide through a distribution network which provides comprehensive after sales service and maintenance back-up.

www.flexi.co.uk

Events

National Fork Truck Safety Conference

26 September, Warwick University
T: 01256 381441

Logistics Link North 2012

9-10 October, NEC, Birmingham
www.logisticslink.co.uk

Skills & Apprenticeships Zone planned for IMHX show

Joint organisers of the premier intralogistics event IMHX (19-23 March 2013) – Informa Exhibitions and the British Industrial Truck Association (BITA) have announced plans for show's first ever Skills & Apprenticeships Zone.

"By creating a Skills & Apprenticeships Zone, we aim to use the event to bring together enthusiastic and talented young people and the companies needing to recruit them," says Rob Fisher, event director.

The zone will be spearheaded by the BITA Academy. With the logistics industry facing a skills shortage, the BITA Academy – a dedicated apprenticeship training facility operated in conjunction with City of Bristol College – was established earlier this year to help find and train the next generation of engineers. Some 200 new apprentices per year need to be recruited as forklift engineers to service the UK's fleet of internal combustion engine and electrically powered trucks. The BITA Academy sets a new standard for apprenticeships in forklift truck engineering and features a pooling scheme whereby graduate apprentices can move freely between participating companies in order to help them secure a job. IMHX exhibitors promoting their own apprenticeship programmes include Automated Technology Group; APEX Linvar and Briggs Equipment.

For the first time, IMHX will feature a special area for the United Kingdom Warehousing Association (UKWA). With over 600 full members, UKWA is a leading trade association for the third party logistics (3PL) sector. The UKWA 3PL Zone will be centred around a hospitality area where visitors can discuss their logistics needs with UKWA members, learn more about UKWA and discover the benefits of joining the association.

www.imhx.biz

Forklift showroom undergoes facelift

Materials handling specialist Jungheinrich has completed the renovation of its West Midlands used forklift showroom facility.

The showroom, in the Erdington district of Birmingham, has been upgraded and now provides a setting for Jungheinrich's customers to view and purchase models from the company's wide range of refurbished forklift trucks.

"We want our used forklift clients to enjoy a positive experience when they visit our showroom and have set about creating a space where our 'second life' forklift truck models can be displayed in style," says Neil Warren, Jungheinrich UK used equipment and short-term rental director.

Around 30 Jungheinrich used trucks from the company's extensive range will be on display in the showroom and all are offered for next day delivery.



As well as viewing the various truck models in stock, visitors to the Erdington facility will see a step-by-step demonstration of the refurbishment process – said to be the most thorough in the lift truck industry undertaken at the group's specialist used truck factory at Dresden, Germany.

www.jungheinrich.co.uk

White papers on freight management

Supply chain management provider AEB International has announced a series of white papers on the topic of freight management optimisation.

Optimising transport management could help companies to reduce freight costs by up to 35 percent, according to AEB. In a series of four white papers, AEB focuses on the administrative processes of transport management and demonstrates how to identify and realise savings.

The first and second white papers have already been published: The first is titled "Three Paths to Efficient Freight Invoice Auditing" and describes how companies can best organise

their freight invoice auditing.

The second white paper is titled "Navigating the Price Maze: Smart Freight Cost Calculation" and provides practical advice for shipping managers and supply chain management strategists alike, explaining how they can use smart software to better manage freight costs and what they need to look for when choosing such a solution.

The third white paper will look at simulations, comparative analyses, and freight statistics, while the fourth will be devoted to the topic of freight cost reallocation.

The white papers can be downloaded from the website: aeb-international.co.uk/freight

Briggs to takeover Barloworld Handling

Briggs Equipment, the exclusive UK dealer for Yale Europe Materials Handling products, has executed a purchase agreement to acquire Barloworld Handling UK assets.

Completion is expected to occur no later than 30 September at which time Briggs will have responsibility for sales and service of both the Hyster and Yale brand of lift trucks in the UK.

Richard Close, CEO for Briggs Equipment UK, said: "This agreement demonstrates our unwavering commitment to the UK market; growing strategically and dynamically over and above our competitors. This move reflects the aspiration of Briggs which is to invest, grow and expand; building on our platform of success since the Yale UK acquisition two years ago."

www.briggsequipment.co.uk

New CEO for FLTA



Peter Harvey MBE has been appointed the new chief executive of the Fork Lift Truck Association (FLTA), succeeding David Ellison, who has retired after more than a decade of service.

Harvey arrives at the FLTA after completing a distinguished 37-year career with the British Army.

www.fork-truck.org.uk