

Included in this issue -

- **The Clad Boy® family grows**
- **Building links with the local community**
- **Work safely, plan efficiently**

The Clad Boy® family grows - new models now available in UK

With the recent introduction of two new models, the Clad Boy® family now consists of three distinct lifters, each offering defined advantages and all representing the very best in vacuum panel handling. With the capability to handle panel weights up to 800Kg, panel lengths up to 30m and panel widths from 200mm to 2000mm, the Clad Boy® range now truly offers the ultimate in flexibility, performance and practicality.



Clad Boy® - model CB3

The **original** Clad Boy® model with renowned performance, reliability and safety. Over 1000 units produced and in use in more than 30 countries, this lifter has become the industry standard over the last 8 years and still remains at the core of our UK hire and sales operation.



Heavy duty Clad Boy® - model CB4

Developed in response to the trend towards thicker and heavier panels, this model has the ability to lift up to 800Kg in certain configurations.

Currently in use installing heavy vertical mineral wool wall panels, this lifter can also handle horizontal wall panels and roof panels of all types, sizes and orientations.

Powered by a high capacity internal 12V battery with integral 110V charger, this unit operates in the same way as the CB3 model and uses the proven fail-safe secondary safety strap system to ensure compliance with all relevant standards and regulations.



Dual circuit Clad Boy® - model CB5

Retaining all the modular features and flexible configurations of the other Clad Boy® models, the CB5 has the added benefit of dual vacuum circuit operation. This ensures compliance with specific site or customer requirements and when used with the proven Clad Boy® safety strap system the option of triple safety is introduced for the first time.

Purchase or rental - the choice is yours

With a UK hire fleet now exceeding 100 units we can offer weekly rental of all three models alongside our wider range of lifting equipment.

Alternatively all units are available for outright purchase with competitive pricing on all options.

4 Cladding Services sponsors local squash



With four staff members actively playing recreational squash, when leading England squash coach Derek Norris approached us it seemed logical to offer support to one of our local teams. Currently riding high in the Humberside squash league, Woodlands Squash Club now boast smart new team shirts emblazoned with our company logo.

In addition to the senior competition team, Woodlands Squash Club has an active and growing junior section which attracts a great deal of local media attention.

Work safely, plan efficiently - the following article was featured in a recent issue of RCI magazine

Mechanical handling techniques have become widespread throughout the construction industry and the roofing and cladding sector is no exception. Over the last 10 years, and particularly the last 4 to 5 years, the pace of adoption of mechanical handling techniques has accelerated. Many professional installers of composite roof and wall panels use mechanised and vacuum operated handling equipment routinely and the growth in the use of our Clad Boy®, Rota Boy®, Cool Boy® and Pack Boy™ equipment has been relentless, even through the long recession of the last two years.

It is interesting to examine the motivation that has pushed the industry towards the use of vacuum and mechanical handling. Companies such as ourselves have spent so much time and too much money promoting our equipment and preaching the advantages but it would be vain to suggest that we alone have moved this industry.

In reality, the single main reason why our equipment has been adopted is the inexorable tightening of health and safety regimes on UK construction sites. With safe working now the mantra throughout our industry, we are confident that growth will continue particularly since the proposed amendments to Part L of the Building Regulations due to impact over the coming months will result in thicker and heavier composite roof and wall panels.

There is no doubting that today's construction sites are safer and better places to be and we all should sleep better knowing that roofers and cladders are no longer expected to manhandle long and heavy panels or swarm over delivery trucks 2, 3 or even 4m in the air.

However, companies who adopt these new techniques just to solve a handling and health and safety problem are really missing the point. Still we get too many calls from sites where composite panels are stacked up and installers are at a stand still because at the eleventh hour someone has asked the million dollar question – how are you going to install the panels safely? Panic often sets in, programs start to slip and everyone is irate with the main contractor portrayed as the villain of the piece.

With such panic projects, efficiency, careful planning, manning levels and operational procedures all become forgotten with the sole focus of satisfying the “unreasonable” demands of the main contractor.

Fortunately many progressive roofing and cladding contractors take a different attitude and from experience they know that early adoption of mechanical techniques and vacuum handling not only ensures that they comply with the most stringent safety requirements but also gives them competitive advantages through improved efficiency.

It has been repeatedly proven without any shadow of doubt on many monitored projects that the use of equipment such as our Clad Boy®, Cool Boy® and Rota Boy® vacuum lifters increases panel installation rates with reduced team numbers and when coupled with pack off-loading systems such as the Pack Boy™ the whole site installation process runs smoothly and efficiently.



Adoption of mechanical handling equipment and the improved techniques and processes they allow in turn gives installers the opportunity to look at longer and wider panel sizes, further improving their efficiency and competitive advantage.

Panels in excess of 20m long are now routinely installed and the Clad Boy® system offers the possibility of 30m lengths in single lifts. The recent introduction of the Kingspan KS2000RW double width panel allows installers to take further advantage of the available equipment, opening up the possibility of installing over 3000m² of roof per day.

On one recent project involving long roof panel lengths the installer, a veteran of many years in the industry, admitted to making more profit than on any previous project and this was achieved in the depths of a recession. However, such efficiencies will only be achieved with careful planning and they will never be realised by the last minute panic adopters.

Over the last few years the industry has lost many well known and long established roofing and cladding contractors. Whilst cash-flow difficulties are undoubtedly the main reasons for business failure, severe competition for dwindling projects and the cost of compliance with client and main contractor requirements are often cited as factors.

In this tough business and operational environment, careful planning, attention to detail, use of long panel lengths, early adoption of mechanical handling techniques and efficient working methods all combine to give a competitive edge whilst at the same time complying with and often exceeding even the most onerous site health and safety regimes.

