

WATTS UP

Newsletter of Watts Industries

Watt an Investment!

Watts Industries UK's investment in its broad product range, which began in earnest with the acquisitions of Electro Controls and Black Teknigas shows no signs of abating!

Both companies will soon be moving into a new 36,500 sq ft purpose built world class manufacturing facility near to the current site in St. Neots, Cambridgeshire, at a cost of approximately £4m.

In a development partnership with Artisan Developments Ltd, the new home of Black Teknigas and Electro Controls at Colmworth Business Park will provide significant space for exciting expansion plans.



Construction commenced in May 2007, with the move-in scheduled for spring 2008. The site will house all design, manufacturing, finishing, assembly, warehousing, packaging, administration and sales support for both companies crucially, and for the first time, under one roof.

Black Teknigas Operations Director Dave Martin (pictured above with Steve Adams, Managing Director) said of the development, "The Colmworth site is an excellent location with ideal accessibility and transport links, and St. Neots has proved to be a superb area for employment and recruitment. Black Teknigas has benefited from drawing on a loyal and stable workforce over the last 18 years. The acquisition by Watts Industries last year has shown that growth and future prospects are exciting and employment is increasing".

More information on the official opening of the new site will feature in the next issue of Watts Up.



Welcome. After the positive feedback received on our first issue, we are delighted to provide you with the latest news from around Watts Industries; just in time for the coming heating season. I hope it will be of great interest.

It has been a busy time across the network in the UK, nowhere more busy than in the Black Teknigas division where we have reviewed the marketing and sales support given to our extensive product range. To find out more turn straight to page three.

Solar power is discussed on page two as we look to dispel some of the myths about this oft-misunderstood area (like the need for perpetual sunshine in a country that rarely enjoys it!)

Microflex, our ultra energy efficient piping system which is available in a range of lengths and sizes shows why with 4,000 products, Watts Industries continues to provide one of the largest and most diverse plumbing, heating and ventilation product lines anywhere in the world.

Steve Adams, Managing Director

Watts

MICROFLEX-ible, reliable and energy saving tubing in a size you need

With over 10 years experience in the provision of pre-insulated plastic tubing to applications as diverse as heating swimming pools, stables, pig production facilities and the leisure industry, Watts has recognised the challenges impacting on users and fitters brought about by the requirements on site.

In order to bring Microflex tubing closer to its customers, Watts has invested in specially designed coiling and decoiling machines to cut Microflex tubes into exact lengths. Watts can now offer cut lengths to suit specific project requirements from stock to a maximum length of 100 metres in tube diameters from DN20 to DN50 inclusive.

Because of its closed cell insulation around a PE-Xa medium tube in a

double-walled, flexible outer jacket, it can be used in alternative energy systems like wood-burning stoves, biogas systems and in heat/cold storage systems.

Microflex tubing from Watts is suitable for operating conditions of 95°C/6 bars in central heating systems (with an oxygen screen), for operating conditions of up to 95°C/10 bars in hot water systems and up to 25°C/12 bars in drinking water systems.



Call +44 (0)1386 446997 for more information.

Watts

A bright future for Solar – despite the rainy weather!

The dismal summer hasn't helped in keeping solar power at the forefront of public consciousness. It's a measurement of the misconceptions that surround solar power when a bad summer – OK, a very bad summer – banishes all thought of investment from the minds of many consumers.

Those of us who work in the industry are fully aware that days of uninterrupted sunshine are not necessary for solar installations to work satisfactorily but we have our work cut out to put this message across to the great British public.

In fact solar panels are well up to the task of collecting energy even when the temperature drops so they can be used to supplement a conventional heating and hot water system, providing considerable energy cost savings even in winter.

The Watts Flowbox system combines a pump station and solar control system and is one of a growing number of functional and competitively priced options supplied by Watts.



The Watts Flowbox incorporates a number of intelligent features including integral sensors to ensure a steady temperature, a balancing valve to set the correct flow of water to optimise efficiency and isolating valves with built in 'gravity flow stops' to prevent pipe in pipe circulation. Watts also design and manufacture a range of electronic controls for solar systems with a range of programme settings to suit requirements.

Call +44 (0)1386 446997 for more information.

Electro Controls

Getting the message?

Watts Industries' Electro Controls division goes from strength to strength as the UK's leading supplier of heating, ventilation and air conditioning control solutions.

The business is currently embarking on a major national e-promotion campaign to promote next day delivery of crucial control components through our extensive distributor network including BSS, Spartan, Western Automation, WF Electrical, Wolseley and many more.

To receive updates on the latest products, offers and news directly into your inbox, email sales@electrocontrols.co.uk and to locate a distributor, visit www.electrocontrols.co.uk



Call +44 (0)1480 22940 for more information.

Black Teknigas

Black goes green

The specified date for compliance with the Solvent Emission Regulations 2004 was 31st October 2007 and in order to reduce and control emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Black Teknigas has invested heavily in new equipment. The company is already seeing the benefits of how acting in an environmentally responsible way can also increase competitive advantage.



As a manufacturer of a highly comprehensive range of gas control equipment, the degreasing of both components and finished assemblies are important operations within the production cycle that impact significantly on the process. Where jointing, welding or brazing is involved, the quality of the finished product would not only be compromised by the presence of residual grease but it could also be hazardous in operation.

Traditional open top degreasing tanks and even troughs of solvents have been phased out and replaced by a CS300 hermetically-sealed degreaser from Italian company AMA Universal. Eliminating different types of potential pollutant through a three-stage wash, dry and recycle process, emissions are reduced by 98% compared with the traditional open top systems.

The cleaning solvent within the machine is reusable and it is estimated that overall consumption of solvent will be reduced by approximately 80%. All this is fully in line with the company's policy of controlling all critical manufacturing operations in the interests of quality – a policy that has seen other considerable investment to create an all-in-house production site – and offers a valuable service to third party companies.

To learn more contact us on +44 (0)1480 407074 or email us at sales@blackteknigas.co.uk

Black Teknigas

Black Teknigas updates OurSpace

Visit the all new Black Teknigas website now at www.blackteknigas.com and download a range of new brochures, catalogues and product information.

The bold design led approach reflects our aim to really showcase what Black Teknigas does and impress on all customers and users the truly world class facilities we have available.



Call +44 (0)1480 228940 for more information.

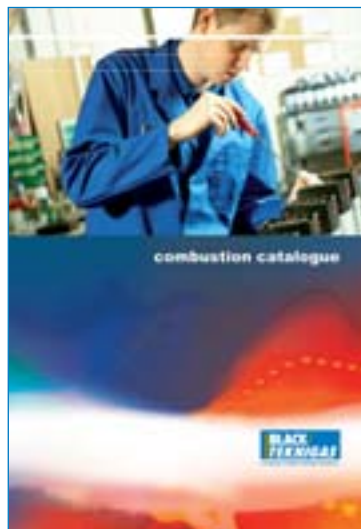
Black Teknigas

New brochures from The Gas Management People

In line with the revamp of the Black Teknigas website, you will find a range of new brochures and catalogues available for the first time online.

These include the updated Combustion Products Catalogue, a High Pressure Capability brochure and updated versions of our PowerSeat and Solenoid Valve brochures.

To learn more contact us on +44 (0)1480 407074 or email us at sales@blackteknigas.co.uk



Watts the question?

How can solar systems be used to best effect in the UK?

The conventional application for solar energy systems has previously been solely for water heating with the energy collected by solar panels more than adequate for the average required bath temperature of 42 degrees centigrade or a regular washing cycle. This is where under floor heating comes in. The popularity of such systems continues to rise because it can reduce the use of fuels by more than 20% in high ceiling rooms and requires supply temperatures lower than those required for radiant systems.

Aren't all solar systems pretty much the same?

Not at all. Especially where the control is concerned the best units incorporate a number of intelligent features including integral sensors to ensure a steady temperature, a balancing valve to set the correct flow of water to optimise efficiency and isolating valves with built in 'gravity flow stops' to prevent pipe in pipe circulation. The solar Flowbox from Watts does all of this and also takes account of the fact that system designs vary.

Are solar systems troublesome to commission and test?

They don't have to be. At Watts we have addressed the issue of filling and drainage of a solar system during commissioning and testing because time is money. Making this operation fast and trouble-free, by means of fill and drain connection points on the flowbox, is therefore a great bonus.

Is it necessary to replace the hot water cylinder when a solar system is installed?

No it is not necessary.



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