

New Layher manufacturing plant means more for customers right across Europe, and beyond



A major step forward in production capability through the opening of a new hot-dip galvanising facility has enhanced the

Layher commitment to ongoing investment and the organisation's belief in using the most efficient and environmentally aware production processes across its manufacturing plants.

"Hot-dip galvanising, which is well understood to minimise corrosion risk and extend product life, is a key production process and the move will directly benefit our UK market, strengthening our ability to meet customers' delivery requirements – especially when rapid response is required," comments UK Managing Director, Sean Pike.



The new 10,000 sq. m. installation at the Layher head office in Eibensbach, Germany was completed in just 10 months, features

state of the art technology and can handle some 80,000 tonnes of steel products per year – bringing the total amount of products that can now be galvanised by Layher to 120,000 tonnes annually. The announcement reflects ongoing production investment which is also seeing aluminium and wood production being transferred to a neighbouring Layher facility to enable expansion of steel component production.

"We believe this important development demonstrates Layher's strength and position in the market and the company's ongoing commitment to its customers," concludes Sean Pike.

The Layher Choice

- ALLROUND® SCAFFOLDING**
Maximised installation versatility centred on Layher's acclaimed 'rosette' design.
- PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS**
From 'Protect' containment panels to a choice of temporary roofing systems – all designed to help maximise efficiency and improve the building environment.
- ROLLING TOWERS**
Fast to erect, easy to reposition, safe and with a choice of decking sizes – the optimum answer to mobile access.
- SPEEDYSCAF®**
Simple, manual erection using just five basic components to create a strong, stable access system.
- FALSEWORK**
With a few additional components, Allround® can easily be converted into a falsework system offering back-propping, crash-deck and load support solutions.
- EVENT SYSTEM**
Dedicated equipment designed to be expandable and adaptable – meeting a vast number of concert and sporting event staging, stand and platform requirements.
- LADDERS AND STAIRTOWERS**
Direct stairtower connection to scaffold design provides safe, durable access for multiple personnel use at any height – together with a choice of ladder designs that all offer durability, stiffness, safety and stability.
- ACCESSORIES**
From steel or aluminium unit beams, scaffold tubes, couplers and castors to hoists, nets, wall anchors and hardware, the choice of optional accessories from Layher is innovative and extensive – to maximise the success and effectiveness of every installation.

Helping to bring snow...to Moscow!



The statistics are simply staggering – 1,300 tonnes of material, 70 trucks, 40 scaffolders, two months' construction – the artificial ski ramp completed in front of Moscow State University was, in every sense, impressive.

Designed to help advertise the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Layher Allround® scaffolding, 37 metres wide and 56 metres high, accommodated high wind and snow loading – despite the latter being delivered by 100 trucks from the Kemerovo region 3,500 kilometres away!

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Layher® 

More Possibilities. The Scaffolding System.

Update

Layher®



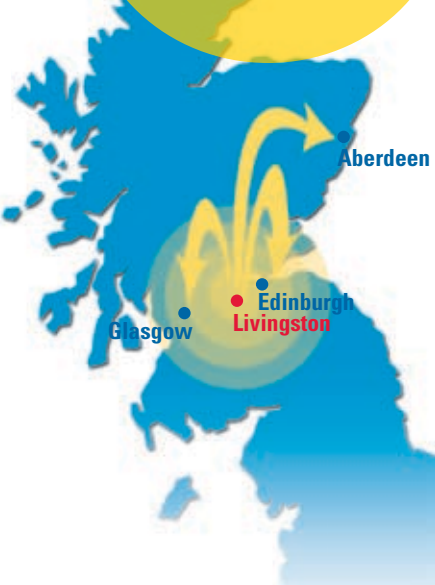
Scotland goes from strength to strength



“
Our new, larger facility maximises the Layher benefit.”
”

Ian Wilson

Fully matched by major factory investment. See back page...



The brand new Layher distribution and administrative depot in Scotland is now fully up and running.

Relocated just a short distance from our original premises in Livingston, the investment has been made to provide far greater access to equipment for customers across the country. At the same time, the move has enhanced users' access to expertise, design and support.

“The new 12,000 sq. m. site will continue to work in conjunction with our head office in Letchworth, Hertfordshire,” comments Regional Manager, Ian Wilson (above).

“However, the greater space now means that we have been able to enhance our demonstration areas and also our training services, which will help our customers maximise the benefit they enjoy from their commitment to the Layher range.”

“This is an important development and demonstrates our ongoing belief in investment, despite the current climate,” adds UK Managing Director, Sean Pike.

“It also reflects the extension of our manufacturing capability in Germany (see



article on back page) and is set to offer even greater supply and operational support which we believe will be acknowledged by our customers throughout Scotland.”

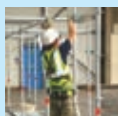
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• Safety and training at the top of the agenda – Simian Risk explains page 7

- ✓ EQUIPMENT
- ✓ DESIGN
- ✓ SUPPORT

- ✓ EXPERIENCE
- ✓ VERSATILITY
- ✓ EXPERTISE

Focus on...

Plant maintenance...
...training ...events



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Housebuilding...Layher helps to build the future at the BRE

The innovative housebuilding projects undertaken at the Building Research Establishment in Watford are widely seen as being at the forefront of the industry. With specific emphasis on key factors including energy efficiency, sustainable buildings and ground breaking new materials, the organisation takes an active role in responding to the challenges asked of today's industry.

Layher's Allround® system, installed by Connect Scaffolding at the site, has played a key role – particularly in terms of speed of erection and inbuilt safety.

"Versatility has proven important particularly as scaffolds can be erected free-standing, allowing the scaffold frame to be created ahead of the structure itself," says Layher's UK Managing Director, Sean Pike. He points out that the absence of cross-bracing and the wide bay design have also assisted a number of the building methods used – such as timber frame structure.

Oliver Cave, owner of Connect Scaffolding, explains why he decided to use Layher Allround® modular scaffolding at the BRE site – "It was important for the client to have a scaffold that could be easily adapted at minimum cost," he says. "The modular design of the system also allowed easy installation and we were delighted to receive excellent feedback."

Examples of Connect Scaffolding's use of Layher's Allround® in Watford can be seen on a number of installations. These include the 'Renewable House' – delivered by the NNFCF with funding from the Department of Energy



and Climate Change (DECC) – which uses material that includes timber and wool, the 'Natural House' – developed by the 'Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment' and is based on Thermaplan clay blocks – and the 'Creo Building', which has been built using Neopor® foam blocks.

"The challenges facing the new-build housing industry are well documented and widely

understood, and the role played by the BRE cannot be underestimated in today's climate," adds Sean Pike.

"We are delighted that, together with Connect Scaffolding, we have been able to contribute to this important work objective and that our design service and equipment have been shown to meet the stringent and highly challenging requirements."



Quality roof checks in

Overlooking the North Sea, the prestigious Crown Spa Hotel in Scarborough required a temporary roofing structure that could meet significant weather and wind loading requirements during refurbishment.

Installed by Acorn Scaffolding, a façade scaffold of up to eight lifts supported a Layher Keder temporary roofing structure designed to an asymmetric 'T' shaped configuration.

"Significantly, some 50% of the scaffold was shear-tied to the building over glass atriums, a key feature of the hotel design," points out Director Rebecca Nutter, who highlights close cooperation between Acorn and Layher's in-house design team.

Specific safety requirements relating to wind loading and location alongside a railway line have been fully addressed by Connect Scaffolding making full use of the Layher Allround® scaffold design at a new residential complex in Chrisp Street, East London. The multi-storey design required scaffolding on three connected blocks whilst at the same time, meeting the needs associated with the site location adjacent to the Docklands Light Railway. Importantly, the structure also accommodated a number of radius elements – a requirement which was fulfilled by Connect Scaffolding’s decision to use the Layher system which offers a choice of fixing points and angles.

“The position of the railway meant that we had to minimise any risk during the erecting and dismantling of the scaffold,” explains Connect Scaffolding’s Managing Director, Oliver Cave. “This was addressed by the Allround® system which features no loose couplers and component lengths no longer than 3.0 m. As a result, we were able to



reduce significantly the potential risk from using a tube and fitting scaffold in order to satisfy DLR’s safety requirements.”

Connect Scaffolding’s selection of Layher Allround® allowed decks to be automatically locked into position which, in turn, contributed to the rigidity and thus safety of the structure. Steel bridging beams were also used at each floor level to provide access from a twin mast rack-and-pinion hoist, whilst the design also featured a fan cover to protect a pedestrian walkway below.

“The absence of cross-bracing, the wide bay access and the versatility of the scaffold were all key factors at the Chrisp Street site,” continues Connect Scaffolding’s Oliver Cave. “Alongside this, we paid close attention to the quality of the scaffold structure and to its overall appearance – both important considerations at the site which reflected key safety and installation objectives that were specified. We believe this is a high quality installation and one which meets the key requirements of all concerned.”

Quality in the heart of town

Scaffold contractor PHD Modular Access Services Ltd. has worked closely with Layher to meet key objectives at a new residential development near Hyde Park in Knightsbridge, central London. Jane Dwyer, PHD’s Managing Director, highlights specific factors behind the decision to specify Layher equipment –

“The development represents one of the most exclusive residential settings in the world,” she says, “and being nominated as access provider, PHD had to choose a scaffolding system whose quality and adaptability could be fully relied upon.”

Lloyd Hannon, PHD’s Special Projects Manager, concurs –

“The liaison of our management and design teams with Layher’s distribution and design departments produced temporary structures, perfectly designed and formed in one of the best scaffold systems on the

market, with the combined team work, quality of product and a high level of service all being key factors,” he says.

“The versatility of the Allround® design has enabled the specific layout and footprint requirements for access at the site to be matched whilst our ability to guarantee supply of equipment in large volumes was also crucial,” adds Layher’s UK Managing Director, Sean Pike. He also draws attention to key factors which include the use of Layher staintowers, the creation of pedestrian access and cantilever structures for material location and specially designed fixing points for mechanical hoists.

“We are delighted to have been invited by PHD to contribute to a project which says quality throughout,” he concludes.



Best left to the young...

One of the more unusual applications of Allround® scaffolding gave a lift to skaters and riders at the Nass 09 event held annually in Shepton Mallet.

Installed by Connect Scaffolding, it formed the framework for a BMX bike and skateboard ramp which, says Oliver Cave, Connect Scaffolding MD, is understood to be Europe's largest ever.

"The structure – fully decked by King Ramps – runs to 8 metres high and 50 metres in length and includes an Access stairtower using Layher stairtower components," he explains.

The aptly named 'Goliath' structure fulfilled its role admirably 'on the day' – almost as impressive as the young skateboarders and BMX cyclists who took part.



Fun in the Park!

Acorn Event Solutions has made full use of the Layher event system range, including the recently developed event truss design, at The Party in the Park in Leeds, organised by Leeds City Council.

"We constructed a modular, flat backed, domed stage – complete with wings to support PA and screen equipment – and a purpose-designed backstage area," explains Director, Rebecca Nutter who sees the event as a good demonstration of the importance of blending purpose-designed equipment with experienced, trained installation expertise.

Based on a system of cubes, the multi-direction capability of the '390 Truss System' worked alongside specially developed 18° ridge truss pieces as key elements in this major event installation.



Helping to make event memories

At Layher we are fully aware that in the highly specialist event sector, every installation needs to be quite literally that... 'an event'.

Because, so often, applications meet very short term or, indeed, one-off requirements, it is vital that equipment design quality and installation expertise go hand-in-hand to deliver a memorable result – every time.

It is this objective that underpins the success that our dedicated event system has enjoyed for many years. Building on our established and widely used scaffold system designs, we have added a range of specialist products to help ensure staging an event benefits from the optimum solution.

"Our stages and podiums range is one example," comments UK Managing Director, Sean Pike. "Proven from concerts to sporting occasions, the range is purpose-designed and can be configured to virtually any shape, layout and size. Coupled to stairways that provide safe access and egress, and to a choice of seating, temporary roof and shelter designs, we can also help ensure effective and safe crowd comfort and help nullify the effect of inclement weather."

make every
orable...



New bridging system takes centre stage

The introduction of the new Allround® Bridging Truss system is already proving ideal for use as a footbridge or as a support girder for heavy loads. Fully compatible with the Allround® system, it can provide a choice of walkway dimensions with construction either in-situ or pre-assembled at ground level for craning into position.



The new bridge truss – featured alongside – is the latest addition to the Layher range of specialist equipment that helps to tailor every installation precisely and successfully. Additionally, a choice of roof and support systems also allows high load bearing capacity up to 7.5 kN/m² to be implemented whilst offering rapid assembly and dismantling – so often a key issue in the event management industry. Furthermore, with entire structures broken down into palletised units, simple transportation is also assured.

Similarly, grandstand platforms – with or without seats – can be installed either freestanding or as part of larger installations. A choice of seating means there are virtually no restrictions on comfort, dimensions or location whether temporary, semi-permanent or re-useable installations are the order of the day.

From agricultural shows to play areas and from local concerts to major international rock music events, a conversation with our specialist team can not only help ensure economic, safe and versatile event staging...but can also help every occasion live long in memory.

“Because the design of the new Allround® Bridging Truss System follows our modular philosophy, successful installations can be achieved almost irrespective of terrain and pedestrian traffic requirements,” comments UK Managing Director, Sean Pike.

“Spans of up to 30m can be specified with, in all cases, high strength a key element of the design – only a 5 cm deflection, for example, is noted over a 24 m span.

“A range of optional fittings can be specified allowing users to reflect particular installation needs,” he adds. “These include a choice of steel or event decking, Layher ‘Protect’ panels, child proof guard rails and temporary roof sections to

offset adverse weather conditions.”

Apart from pedestrian walkway applications, the design can also be used as a clear support girder over obstructions for scaffolding to be built off and upwards, while even suspended scaffolding installations can be connected. Where required, several beams can be assembled next to each other for a further increase in foot traffic or as a temporary work platform.

“We believe that this new development will build on the established success that the Layher name has in this specialist sector – a direct result of our dedicated event system and shoring divisions,” concludes Sean Pike.

“Spans of up to 30 m can be specified.”



Plant maintenance... different environment, same Layher benefits

Just as in the scaffolding contracting industry, plant maintenance has much to gain from a close examination of access systems. From petro-chemical refining to general engineering, the need to provide simple, rapid and cost-effective access – whatever the building or structure – is paramount.

In this context, the Layher approach has much to offer –

Simplicity – the Layher Allround® system, for example, uses a small number of standard parts with in-built connection/locking points – simplifying erection, dismantling and relocation.

Versatility – a choice of supplementary parts means that installation in almost any location is possible – even offshore or in petro-chemical plants.

Handling, installation and safety – fewer loose couplers and integral fixings simplify safe connection and ease of handling, helping to optimise man-power usage.

Adaptability – the option of using either the Layher Allround® decking system or timber boards, and the absence of both cross-bracing and plan-bracing – of major assistance where large dimension materials are involved – are just two examples of Layher systems adapting to exact site needs.

Transportation and storage – simplified via lightweight pre-formed materials and highly versatile individual components – of note in all locations, from engineering plants to offshore installations.

“These are all key factors which we believe continually contribute to the increasing uptake of the Layher Allround® design in plant maintenance applications,” comments UK Managing Director, Sean Pike. “These are all advantages that are enhanced further still by additional purpose-designed equipment such as staitowers or rolling towers which are both easy to erect and offer safe multi-



personnel usage. Similarly, personnel and material hoists can be readily connected, particularly to larger installations, to simplify movement to all structure levels.

“When allied to the benefits of ensuring that the equipment used meets the original manufacturer’s performance specification – addressed at Layher through easily identifiable labelling and traceability initiatives – the full advantages of proven system design can be realised in all plant maintenance environments,” adds Sean Pike. “We believe the concept offers all users in the sector clear opportunities to save time and money whilst meeting the requirements of versatility and above all safety.”



When it comes to site safety – keeping up to date is vital



Ian Fyall and Simon Hughes of Simian Risk Management Ltd. (left) take a closer look.

In the fast moving world of industry, scaffolding contractors need to remain at the leading edge of health and safety – not least because of the pace of new legislation, standards, guidance and industry best practice. Clearly it is important to meet enforcing authorities' requirements – remembering that ignorance is no defence when it comes to the law.

Employers have a duty to keep up to date and to employ a 'competent advisor' who can use several methods to maintain a current awareness of changes that may affect ongoing business. These include –

- Liaison with professional organisations/industry association membership (e.g. NASC, IOSH)
- Attendance at appropriate meetings and seminars
- Subscription to relevant journals, newsletters and email bulletins
- Making full use of the internet and appropriate websites
- Seeking independent advice and audits where appropriate

In recent years we have seen some significant changes within the scaffolding industry with SG4, European standards, Work at Height Regulations and TG20 being just a few in a long list of examples.

In many cases, falls from height are a key focus which itself remains the biggest cause of fatal accidents and the focus of much attention from the HSE. It is this that underpins the joint Layher



and Simian Risk commitment to ensure that the company's scaffold products and support services are up to date, and that awareness and training procedures are current and correctly applied. This will best help to ensure that safety throughout the scaffolding industry is maximised – which clearly is to everybody's advantage.

Profile: Simian Risk



Simian Risk Management Ltd. is an occupational health & safety consultancy and training provider specialising in access and work at height. We offer safety consultancy, training (including

our CISRS Approved Scaffolding Training Centre) and technical support services to all sectors of business relating to workplace access, scaffolding and general work at height, as our specialist niche. Our work is primarily within the scaffolding industry and for the clients of scaffolding contractors on access related issues and we are pleased to provide training and safety support

to Layher and its customers.

Our Directors, Consultants and Instructors have extensive scaffolding industry experience and are seen as the access industry safety experts.

For our Layher product training courses please contact Toni on 01462 475100 and for further information about Simian Risk visit our website (www.simian-risk.com).

SG4 – what you need to know

The term 'SG4' has become the byword for scaffolder safety in the construction industry. Published by the National Access and Scaffolding Confederation (NASC), Safety Guidance Number 4 'Preventing falls in scaffolding and falsework' is supported by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as the minimum acceptable standard for planning

and working at height for the scaffolding trade. The current SG4:05 is also supported by a training DVD and test papers.

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 require employers to consider collective protection (e.g. advance guard rails) over personal (e.g. harnesses). The Layher Advance Guard Rail System®

is a method of collective protection.

HSE continues to support the advice given in SG4, providing it is regularly reviewed and updated. Work has now begun on the next revision of SG4 with the reformation of the NASC working party (in October 2009) and we should expect the new guidance to be launched sometime in 2010.