

*Some things in life are just meant to be together and this philosophy is especially true with Schelling UK's new trading partners – Votecs shredders and Barbaric lifting and handling systems. Both companies have been carefully chosen as complimentary partners to Schelling UK's cutting range.*

# Starbank invests further with Schelling UK

Philip Darbyshire, managing director of Starbank Panel Products picks up the story: "For Starbank it would have been very easy to rest on our laurels and once again congratulate ourselves on a good year of sales, however this is not how Starbank works. Our goal always is to move forward with product development, and along with that it requires careful investment to improve our production machinery so any complimentary is always a bonus"

As Markus Freuis, managing director of Schelling UK comments: "The more you have, the more options you can give your customers, and the more individual tastes you can cater for". It was at this point that Starbank realised the additional value and benefits of sourcing additional products from one trusted supplier. As the current owner of two Schelling FH6 cut-to-size beam saws, a VS16 Board Storage System and a customised FTH capable of handling wood based panels, compact laminates and plastics, Starbank was very familiar with excellent service levels delivered by Schelling UK. This gave them the confidence and trust to invest further with Schelling UK.

Barbaric GmbH – founded in 1995 – is proud to partner with Schelling UK Ltd to deliver intelligent lifting and storage systems across the United Kingdom. According to Markus: "It is our aim to offer individual lifting solutions to our



Starbank's Barbaric SSK light crane system with a B3 DL door lifter allows quick and nimble movement of loads within a smaller area

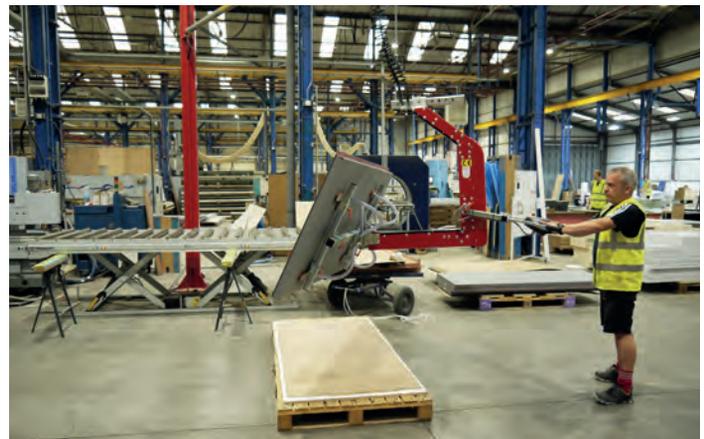
existing customers all of whom already have trust and confidence in Schelling UK and to also attract new customers with these products."

According to Lis Burrow Chartered MCIPD, Grad IOSH, health and safety manager at Starbank: "Backs and shoulders are extremely vulnerable to manual handling injuries within our sector however the Barbaric lifters will drastically reduce the potential problems with repetitive strain injuries because they take care of all the heavy lifting, and in doing so they remove the strain on the operators, which reduces risk

of injury, while reducing worker fatigue." Previously the Shield branded fire doors which Starbank specialise on in a subcontract basis for leading manufacturers across the UK – which can weigh 100kg at times – were manually handled during the Postforming, CNC and Glazing process stages. Now two sets of Barbaric SSK Pillar jib cranes have been positioned at either end of both their five axis CNC and the postforming line to eliminate these risks and to also ensure that high value added products are moved efficiently, safely and without quality being compromised. Another benefit of

the Barbaric B3 DL Door and Panel lifting mechanism is in its ability to rotate the products 180° during processing which reduces greatly the risk of scratches, improves production time and reduces manual handling during operation.

"In full co-operation and partnership with Starbank, Schelling has designed a customer specific solution which has delivered a more functional workplace," commented Markus. Also purchased by Starbank was a Barbaric SSK light crane system with a B3 DL door and panel lifter which allows quick and nimble movement of loads within a given production cell.



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This highly adaptable 7.5 x 5m system is located in the finishing and packing area and because the bridge crane is equipped with lateral guide rollers there is complete movement across and along the whole 37.5m<sup>2</sup> area. The 180° turning facility of the lifter allows heavy sensitive components (Doors with glazing for example) to be moved with ease, by just one man.

Paul Atkinson, Starbank production director, comments: “During the research phase, we evaluated other board lifting manufacturers and found that other compressed air lifter manufacturers were slightly cheaper, however, when we investigated the overall life cycle costs of the Barbaric system which uses a single phase 240v 13amp supply without the need for constant compressed air, the Barbaric system proved to be more cost effective as power is only consumed whilst in use.”

An integral result from the cutting process is waste wood, so Votecs GmbH was an ideal trade partner for Schelling UK. Nestled between two Schelling fh6 cut-to-size saws is Starbank’s latest purchase, a horizontal Votecs VHZ T6 shredder.

Due to the compact size of the VHZ horizontal shredder it fits neatly beside wood processing machinery with the operators feeding material, up to 5m long, directly onto a vibrating conveyor which directly feeds the shredder which is housed in its own walk-in sound-proof room with access door. Its compact size means it can be used directly alongside the saws so that it effectively automates the recycling element of the manufacturing process. The saw operators are “over the moon” as previously they would have had to break up the long trim off cuts into smaller lengths to fit into recycling bins. These bins were later transported by forklift truck to a central shredder all of which took additional production time and energy.

Philip and Paul at Starbank have long realised the potential benefits which smarter machinery can provide, such as improved material handling which is one of the reasons why they purchased the Schelling VS16 board storage

system. This principle also led them to purchase the horizontal Votecs shredder because it saves the operators time, energy and manually handling waste material unnecessarily. The efficient handling and processing of waste materials (a precious resource at Starbank) is then further recycled via a large Biomass system which heats the factory to a constant temperature and ultimately reduces landfill and their carbon footprint minimising environmental impact.

With a 45kW motor and a 354mm diameter V-profiled rotor running at 650rpm it shreds its way through a minimum of 2.3 tonnes per hour of waste, producing chipboard and MDF shavings of 15/20mm. And because the V rotors are manufactured from one piece they



are particularly torsion resistant, not to mention the fact that the knife holders are welded around the circumference of the profiled rotors. All this adds up to a very fast and efficient shredding machine.

According to Paul Atkinson: “Due to the close proximity of the two Schelling saws we knew it was going to be a noisy operation for the saw operators, so to minimise this the Votecs shredder was built on rubber anti-vibration feet and an acoustic booth was then specified and built to surround the

shredder”.

Paul adds: “Let’s face it, it’s always challenging to see where new opportunities for production improvement may lie, but it is part of our continual investment in the latest technology that enables this.”

To see a working Votecs shredder and a Barbaric lifter, visit the Schelling UK showroom in Wetherby or to receive more information, contact Andrew Hepworth or Markus Freuis.

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**Starbank’s horizontal Votecs VHZ T6 shredder**