

IN BRIEF...

Some of the recent stories you may have missed on www.shdlogistics.com this month...

Construction work on the 2.15m sq ft Prologis Park Wellingborough West logistics scheme in Northamptonshire has begun...

In a poll taken at the Microlise Transport Conference, attended by over 1,000 senior industry delegates, a 44% majority reported they would vote for Brexit...

A bridge under construction to support the Port Salford logistics development plunged 60 feet after it collapsed...

A new not-for-profit organisation called Road to Logistics has been formed with the aim of addressing the professional driver shortfall, whilst supporting those in society who may need a helping hand...

When unfancied Leicester City lifted the Barclays Premier League trophy at the end of an outstanding 2015/16 campaign, their fans around the world celebrated with the help of DHL...

For the second consecutive year, Yorkshire-based company A-Safe (UK) Ltd has featured in the Sunday Times Heathrow SME Export Track 100 league table...

£1.5bn of long-awaited improvements to the A14 have been approved by the Department of Transport...

The 'Training Trucks for Transaid' initiative – a daring cross-continent challenge to source and drive a bulk liquid tanker and a coach from Europe to Africa – has been officially launched...

SHD Logistics editor Peter MacLeod – a self-confessed 'petrol head' – can hang his head in shame after misidentifying the 70s classic in last month's magazine as a Ford Cortina. It was, of course, a Hillman Hunter, as corrected by the gentleman leaning against it, Mike Mathias, and several others. Peter, however, will make no apology for the width of Mike's flares!

XPO Logistics has finalised a long-term agreement with leading global lifestyle brand Ted Baker to manage its new pan-European distribution centre...

Materials handling equipment manufacturer UniCarriers has become the latest member of the transport and logistics industry to pledge its support to Transaid as a corporate sponsor...

PROPERTY

HoF confirms Peterborough site

Department store group **House of Fraser** has submitted a planning application to Peterborough City Council for the development of a new 750,000 sq ft distribution hub on the edge of Peterborough. The move comes as its online retail business soars.

House of Fraser has picked Roxhill's 240-acre Gateway Peterborough site, as exclusively revealed by SHD Logistics in April. In January, SHD Logistics also exclusively reported that House of Fraser had chosen a shortlist of sites after a search along the M1 corridor from Sheffield to Northamptonshire. The site at the junction of the A1(M) and

the A605 already has outline consent for up to 5 million sq ft of industrial and distribution buildings.

House of Fraser chief executive Nigel Oddy said: "House of Fraser has seen phenomenal growth of its e-commerce business in recent years and has consistently delivered a strong financial performance, testament to the strength of our truly multichannel business.

"As a result of this growth, we need additional warehouse capacity to meet future supply chain needs and to meet demand for products from our customers. After an extensive site search for an additional facility across

the Midlands, we have submitted a planning application to develop a site in the Gateway Peterborough development."

House of Fraser has two existing distribution centres in Wellingborough and Milton Keynes, with current third-party logistics agreements running to at least H2 2018, and has invested significantly in these sites in recent years. These two locations and the respective logistics providers play a vital role in fulfilling House of Fraser's warehouse capacity needs. ■

➤ www.houseoffraser.co.uk

RIP Paul Bidwell

We are sad to report the passing of Paul Bidwell, the UK marketing manager for Manitou. A good friend to SHD Logistics, Paul passed away at the age of 58 and had been with Manitou for over 25 years.

Jonathan Tapp, UK managing director of Manitou, conveyed the feelings of his company: "Paul was a well-loved member of the staff here at Manitou, and so I am sure you can appreciate we have lost a dear and valued colleague and our thoughts go out to all Paul's family and friends."

Brian Bradford, managing director



of Manitou dealer Northern Lift Trucks (NI) Ltd, added: "It was with great shock and sadness that we

learnt of the recent untimely death of Paul Bidwell. I have known Paul since he started with Manitou in the sales administration department more than 25 years ago.

"Paul was a kind, good-hearted man who was well-liked by everyone in the industry. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family at this difficult time. He will be sorely missed."

SHD Logistics sends its condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. We shall miss his smiling demeanour at IMHX this year. ■

INDUSTRY

Waples appointed as new BITA president

Tim Waples, vice president and CEO of Doosan Industrial Vehicles UK Group Companies, has been appointed as the new President of the **British Industrial Truck Association**, formally receiving the badge of office at BITA's recent AGM.

Waples was previously president from 2010-12 and is a major figure in the industry.

He began his career as a mechanical engineering apprentice, and has risen to his current position, where he has overseen the acquisition of Rushlift Ltd.

Waples succeeds David Rowell, the only president in BITA's history to serve two consecutive terms. As well as playing a major role at European

level, one of Rowell's major legacies has been the BITA Academy, the first time there has been a joint body for apprenticeships across the industry.

Commenting on his appointment, Waples said: "It is a real honour to be asked to take up the post of president, especially for a second time. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor and all his hard work, and during my time in office I will look to build on this work particularly in the area of statistics, as BITA is the only official source of UK industrial trucks statistics.

James Clark, secretary general of BITA, said: "Tim is a prime example of how, for anyone committed and prepared to work hard, a career in the materials handling industry



can provide a pathway to senior management. I would like to welcome him as president and say how much I am looking forward to working with him again." ■

➤ www.bita.org.uk