

# Triumphed again

According to MD Daniel Baker, Origin has bounced back strongly from lockdown and is heading for 'business as usual' under the new Covid-19 regulations.

Baker says: "Covid-19 was obviously an incredibly difficult time for most businesses, with those operating in the manufacturing industry particularly feeling the pressures of lockdown. Thankfully, we have come out the other side and business is strong. This is in part due to our ability to adapt and innovate quickly, us being able to confidently offer a reliable service to customers new and old, as well as the demand being driven as consumers are wanting a change after spending so long in their homes over lockdown. To have 30% more orders than from July 2019 is remarkable given the circumstances."

Baker says that it is Origin's ability to react to change quickly that has allowed it to steal a march on the rest of the market in terms of lead times and of being able consistently to deliver on time and in full. He says: "It has been well documented that Origin's *your lead time, not ours* promise changed the way in which the manufacture of bespoke products was viewed.

"The company has triumphed again, this time, with the speed at which we were able to bring its lead times back down to normal after lockdown." □



Daniel Baker

[www.origin-global.com](http://www.origin-global.com)

**Luton based fabricator, WeatherBreak Windows, has responded to a marked increase in demand for its high-quality aluminium product range, with the addition of a new AMC308 machining centre from Kombimatec.**

**Installed at the end of August, WeatherBreak's new AMC308 machining centre is the second machine of its type to be ordered from Kombimatec and has been introduced to bolster the aluminium window and door line at the manufacturer's state of the art 30,000 sq ft facility.**

**Featuring CNC control with a colour touch screen display, WeatherBreak opted for the 3m**

**version of the 3-axis AMC308, which is suitable for both aluminium and PVC profile. Integrating an auto rotating work bench and an automatic multi-tool change cabinet, the AMC308 also combines a 5HP motor spindle, a quick change ISO30 tool system, electronic variable speed control, pneumatic rotating of the work piece through 90-0-90 degrees with adjustment for intermediate angles – plus a host of additional features that result in a highly capable, cost effective and easy-to-use machine.** □



[www.kombimatec.com](http://www.kombimatec.com)

# Setting the standard

The Association for Specialist Fire Protection (ASFP) has welcomed the latest proposals on competence requirements for those working on higher risk buildings. The report *Setting the Bar* has been released by the Competence Steering Group (CSG).

The report proposes an overarching system of competence made up of four key elements: a new competence committee sitting within the Building Safety Regulator; a national suite of competence standards – including new sector-specific frameworks developed by 12 working groups; arrangements for independent assessment and reassessment against the competence standards; and a mechanism to ensure that those assessing and certifying people against the standards have appropriate levels of oversight.

The ASFP says it is particularly pleased to see the proposals relating to installers working on in scope buildings. The report recommends that, wherever appropriate, government should mandate persons working on higher-risk buildings to be registered/certified by a recognised professional or certification body. It also calls on the industry to adopt a framework for all the installer sectors that can later be applied to other project types and will consist of:

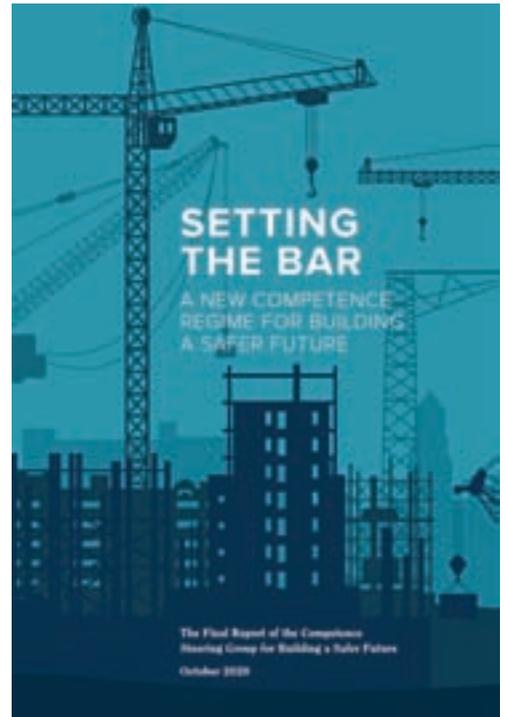
- Accredited third party certification of companies
- Level 2 or 3 qualifications for individuals
- A card scheme such as, but not limited to, the CSCS
- CPD refresher training and the maintenance of individual skills

The report proposes that all installers should possess a core

knowledge of fire safety in buildings, with training to be standardised and made mandatory.

It calls for all individuals whose work on higher-risk buildings is likely to materially affect safety outcomes, or who work unsupervised on these buildings, to meet the skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours set out in the competence frameworks developed by the industry. □

[www.asfp.org.uk](http://www.asfp.org.uk)



**Norton Clipper has launched its new multi-channel colour coded campaign to ensure trade professionals are getting the most out of their diamond blades.**

The new campaign aims to take the stress out of the selection process. Online, as well as being promoted by distributors and retailers, the campaign will serve as a helpful reminder to tradespeople as to which coloured diamond blade is right for each job. Some distributors and retailers will also be displaying leaflets and offering additional information in-store and on their website, to help make the decision process as quick and easy as possible.

In addition, Norton Clipper's dedicated campaign webpage allows users to match the perfect diamond blade for the job, all at the touch of a button. The page shares all the information about the range, covering a variety of industries, machinery and applications including concrete, asphalt, ceramics and refractory. □



[saint-gobain.com](http://saint-gobain.com)