

Yates MD, returns

AluK has announced that Russell Yates has been reappointed as UK managing director. Olivier Vincent, AluK Group's head of Europe, says: "We are delighted to have him back at the helm in the UK. His knowledge and experience are virtually unparalleled in this industry, and we know that he is a popular and respected figure amongst customers and colleagues alike."

Yates says: "I spent 17 years at AluK before I left in 2020 to head up a major aluminium fabricator and obviously still care passionately about this business. I'm excited to be back, particularly with such strong backing from the board."

"I had a really valuable experience in fabrication, helping to transform that operation and at the same time seeing the reality of the industry from a different perspective. It was a unique opportunity to see AluK as our customers do and I'm bringing all the knowledge and insight that I acquired there back with me to inform our plans for the months and years ahead."

Yates says his immediate focus will be on customers and on ensuring AluK is a great company to do business with.

Key economist

Economist, Edward Johnstone, will give a keynote speech at the 2023 Glazing Summit which will set out the economic outlook for the glazing industry.

Johnstone is co-chief investment officer at Arbutnot Latham private wealth bank and will bring his expertise to the glazing industry in the keynote speech: *Seeing the Bigger Picture – the Economists view*.

He will analyse and discuss the economic consequences of inflation and interest rates, along with the challenges posed by the cost-of-living crisis and the dynamics of the housing and property market. Can we anticipate a challenging period ahead, or might the market regain its momentum?

Andrew Scott, founder of the Glazing Summit, says: "Every year, our economist's view keynote speech is hugely popular and vital for delegates to get a view on how the industry could be affected by the UK economy in the future."



Russel Yates, AluK MD

He also says he wants to see AluK leading the aluminium sector's response to the challenges and opportunities which will come from the government's Future Homes agenda, saying: "I want to see us really influencing the market, with innovative new products from a strong and trusted brand. The next few years are crucial for the aluminium sector if it is to cement its position as the most sustainable solution to Future Homes and I'm determined to put AluK at the very heart of that." □



"We are honoured to have one of London's leading economists join us and share their market insights at this year's Glazing Summit. Ed will share a bank's view on the home improvement and property market and reveal if we are in for a rough two years or if the market will bounce back." □

20 years in the field

Last month, Simon Field, one of the senior warehouse operatives at Window Ware, received his 20-year long service award.

The award was presented to Field by Window Ware's managing director, Sam Nuckey.

Sam Nuckey says: "I believe the average length of service for employees in the UK is currently around 4-5 years. That makes long working tenures like Simon's even more special and definitely something to be celebrated and rewarded."

Presenting the award she said: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and commitment over the last two decades. The warehouse team really is the backbone of our business and Simon is one of our longest-serving members. Without him and the rest of the team, we simply wouldn't be able to provide our customers with our trademark high levels of service, accuracy, and



Simon Field

dependability."

Field's line manager, operations service manager Laura Wren, says: "Simon plays a pivotal role in helping us maximise efficiency and cater to the changing needs of our customers. His positive and cheerful attitude, along with his two decades' worth of experience, make him a great colleague and a brilliant mentor for our newer staff." □