

Visionary leader

Martin McVicar, Combilift's co-founder and CEO, received the Industry Leader Award at the UK Engineering and Manufacturing Awards 2024. The award is sponsored by Menzies. This accolade honours McVicar's 'visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to innovation which have played a pivotal role in transforming Combilift from a small Irish manufacturer into a global leader in the material handling sector'.

Since co-founding the company, McVicar has overseen its rapid growth, transforming it into one of Ireland's top exporters, with a projected turnover of €500m this year. His approach to leadership combines technical expertise with a hands-on, inclusive management style. Known for his engineering skills, McVicar has a background as Chief engineer at Moffett.

Combilift has achieved dual recognition at this year's awards also winning the Design Team of the Year award. This was presented to Combilift's heavy equipment team for its work on the 12-Wheel Combi-LC Blade. This has been engineered to handle offshore



Martin McVicar

wind turbine blades, which can reach up to 115 metres in length and weigh as much as 70 tonnes. The design significantly enhances the ability to transport these large, non-uniform loads safely and efficiently from manufacturing sites to storage and deployment locations. □

Third year

Reynaers Aluminium UK has been confirmed as the headline sponsor for the Façade Design and Engineering Awards for the third year in a row.

Following directly after the Zak World of Facades London conference, which will host up to 1,000 façade specialists from across the world, the Façade, Design and Engineering Awards will take place on 6th November 2024 at Old Billingsgate, London.

These awards, organised by the Society of Façade Engineering (SFE) and the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineering (CIBSE), recognise excellence in façade engineering.

Reynaers plays a significant role in this industry sector as a leading global manufacturer and supplier of innovative aluminium façade systems. The company's portfolio includes structural glazed facades, unitised systems, and advanced façade solutions designed for high performance and sustainability-led projects.

John McComb, technical director at



John McComb

Reynaers Aluminium UK, says: "As a company that strives to support architects and construction professionals in achieving the most innovative and sustainable designs, we are delighted to once again take on the role of headline sponsor for such an important awards initiative in the sector.

"As well as design excellence, this year's awards will again reward sustainability in façade, engineering, which Reynaers continues to work hard to support through constantly enhancing the capabilities of its curtain walling system and by seeking lower carbon aluminium solutions." □

Welcoming Richards

Window Ware has appointed Sam Richards as head of customer operations. Previously Richards has held positions at companies such as Glazerite, UK Door and Window Group, Evolution, Aluco, and Everest.

In his new role Richards will be responsible for leading Window Ware's service to customers by managing the sales office and purchasing teams. His focus will be on fostering stronger collaboration within the customer operations team, increasing customer engagement and satisfaction, and elevating service standards.

Sam Nuckey, managing director of Window Ware, says: "I am thrilled to welcome Sam to the Window Ware senior leadership team. His extensive industry knowledge and passion for customer centric thinking and service make him an ideal fit for us. With our continued growth and recent changes at Window Ware, we know we have to create more senior level relationships with our customers and brand partners to ensure that we can continue to support and serve their businesses in the right way."



Sam Richards

Sam Richards says: "I am incredibly excited to join Window Ware and contribute to the company's continued success. I am eager to build on the strong foundation already in place and further the incredible work of our sales office and purchasing teams whilst fostering strong relationships with our customers." □