



- *Virtual SPATEX - Success*
- *Opening Pools for the Season*
- *Back to (the Future of)
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NOTICE TO ALL READERS

Articles and advice in the ISPE Magazine are for guidance only. Further professional advice should always be sought before acting upon, or refraining from acting upon, a course of action. Health & Safety is of paramount importance and the correct PPE (personal protective equipment) should always be utilised before undertaking any job.

If in doubt, ASK!

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Front Cover Picture Story

When we first saw the location of the new proposed pool, it seemed an excellent opportunity to create a stunning work of art. The sea view offered a panoramic experience with breath-taking views over the sea and surrounding area. It seemed immediately obvious that this pool had the potential to combine the quality of our work with an outstanding area of natural beauty, to create something truly spectacular.

Our client's remit was fairly set but we were able to advise on material finishes, colour aesthetic decisions, and water treatment best practices, along with other technical data as required.

For a heating option we recommended a 22kW air source heat pump capable of offering a long swimming season at a most affordable running cost. For some years now we have been recommending air source heat pumps as standard for all our new build pools. Heat pumps combine affordable equipment with a practical cost-saving measure that should directly impact the environment in terms of carbon footprint. Our clients, in general, have welcomed our recommendations for air source heat pumps.

Also, in the plant room we installed a 24 inch tank with glass, powered by a 1.5 horsepower speed controlled pump, generously dimensioned for the pool to provide stable consistent performance in all situations. The running of this pool has proved flawless, and has met completely with our client's expectations, proving our recommendations to have been correct.

This system is capable of keeping 2.0 mg/l of free chlorine as

per SPATA supplement 6 section 6.10. We also considered recommendations regarding salt unit use in sections 6.14 & 6.15 of supplement 6 as this pool uses a salt unit. This system also incorporates a salt rated UV unit.

In all our indoor pools we take this process of dehumidification extremely seriously: our clients require ideal swimming atmospherics suitable for maximum enjoyment of their new pool installation. There is nothing worse than a moist, humid, pool enclosure where light is obstructed by heavily condensated windows. We seek to avoid these kind of enclosures as they offer little client satisfaction. For the purposes of this installation, we installed through the wall units for the dehumidification, and used heat recovery via Index 300 systems.

This project took six months in total to complete, during which time we kept up constant contact with our client, making sure to reassess their needs as often as possible. Our client left incredibly positive feedback expressing his high impressions of our standard of work, and of our team, and acknowledging our passion for the pools we produce and our attention to detail.

Finally, having completed work to our client's, and our own, high specifications, we took significant effort, as we always do, to capture high-quality photos of the final piece. We were extremely gratified to receive 1 of our total 3 Gold SPATA awards this year for this pool which we see as an affirmation of our passion for pool building and an appreciation by our industry in general.

With thanks to:
www.mermaidpools.co.uk

SPATEX Virtual: ‘With a little help from our friends!’

When SPATEX, the UK’s dedicated international water leisure show, took the bold contingency measure of becoming a virtual event in February, it was heartening to know that our stalwart partner, ISPE, was beside us every step of the way. Recording almost 3,000 views for its 22 on-demand workshops, the programme proved a highly popular ingredient.



“Moving the SPATEX live event to an online show for 2021 was like taking a step in the dark but, with ISPE by our sides, it was made that much easier,” says SPATEX Organiser, Michele Bridle. “Elevating the exhibition to a forum for learning each year, the ISPE seminar programme provides the visitor with real added value. Not just a showcase for new products and innovations, the seminars impart a wealth of knowledge, to the point where it’s now recognised industry-wide as providing the best programme of free learning.”

Delighted with the 2,753 views the 22 seminars garnered, the ISPE’s General Secretary, Ross Alcock says: “The virtual show’s facility to offer a mix of live, pre-recorded and semi-live seminars

naturally gave visitors a unique flexibility. Plus, at a time when the industry is incredibly busy, it would appear they welcomed the fact that the seminars could be viewed on-demand for 30 days following the three day ‘live’ virtual event.”



Jon Herbert, Managing Director, Rockingham Swimming Pools Limited, spoke for many when he said: “I must say I really enjoyed SPATEX Virtual. In the face-to-face SPATEX I usually miss a couple of seminars or don’t pick up all the information/leaflets because my bag gets too full and heavy. With the virtual event I could catch up on the recorded seminars and download the bag of leaflets to read at a later date. Congratulations again on a brilliant virtual SPATEX in my eyes.”

As always, Ross curated an excellent cross-section of topics ranging from *How to Strip Down and Re-build a Filter* to *Opening Pools for the Season*. *Common Water Testing Problems in Pools and Spas* and *Swimming Pool Liners – How They are Made and What Can Go Wrong*, both recorded over 300 views each.

SPATEX Organiser, Michele Bridle, says: “We would like to thank Ross and ISPE who helped

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keep the SPATEX flag flying. It was no easy feat to assimilate a totally new concept in such a short time frame and we thank them for their support and hard work. Well over a thousand visitors made the virtual show well worth staging. The large amount of exhibitor's content that visitors downloaded, and the huge amount of interest shown in the seminar programme, are testimony to the value of the show.

"Virtual show development is still in its infancy but we are proud of the high-quality platform that the leading provider, vFairs, helped us create. A virtual exhibition does, of course, offer its own unique set of benefits, but there is no substitute for face-to-face business. We very much look forward to the return of a very special live event at Coventry's Ricoh Arena from

Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3rd February in 2022. Please save the date."

Ross Alcock adds: "ISPE were pleased to participate in the Industry Awards which took place immediately after the first day of SPATEX Virtual and ISPE President Phil Barlow conducted a virtual representation of the ISPE awards including double winner Ashley Head (Gartside Cup for Student of the Year and Jim Johnson Filtration Shield) and Jimmy Lamb, who received his ISPE Fellowship.



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So You Want to Open a Swimming Pool

By Philip Barlow, FISPE

The following article is kindly supplied by Philip Barlow, FISPE, from Phil's ISPE Workshop presentation during SPATEX Virtual. Please note that this article is provided by way of general guidance only as an introduction to the subject in question and it is not possible to cover every aspect and eventuality that an engineer may find on site in a twenty minute presentation, so do seek specialist help before embarking on a specific project.

Well it's that time of year again – the sun starts to poke its head out of the clouds and the days are getting progressively longer. This means two things for me, 1. I start coming out of hibernation and 2. My phone & emails go into overdrive with our clients wanting to book in their swimming pool opening, ready for the start of the season. As there are no two swimming pools alike, this is a general guide on how we carry out our swimming pool openings.

When your client makes contact with you requesting when their pool can be opened it is a good opportunity for you to ask a few simple questions for you to make the work easier.

Questions to Ask Your Client:

- What is the condition of the water? i.e. is it clear or green? Knowing this will help you make the right decision on what chemicals & equipment you'll need to carry out the work.
- How high is the water level in the pool? Because if the water level is still low from the pool close down it may impede the work you are trying to achieve – if it is too low the client may be willing to top it up for you, saving you valuable time.
- Do you have access to everything you need? This may sound silly but turning up to a job without access to everything you need is an avoidable problem.
- If the client has a dog politely ask if the pool surround can be free from mess prior to the visit, as you may need to lay out the debris cover to properly clean it before packing it away.

Equipment needed to carry out a pool opening:

- A pool cleaning kit - this should consist of: a pool pole, brush, net, liner & concrete vacuum heads and pool vacuum hoses.
- A boost pump – sometimes having your own portable swimming pool pump to vacuum the pool with is far easier than using their pool system.
- A water testing kit – it is essential to have a reliable water testing kit to test the full water chemistry reliably.
- A full chemical kit – you will need to take the appropriate chemicals with you to balance the pool water to the correct levels.
- General hand tools – all engineers should have a reliable set of tools consisting of a set of screw drivers, a socket set, strap wrenches and adjustable grips are just some of the hand tools you should be carrying.

- An extra pair of hands – it may not always be possible but as the old saying goes ‘many hands make light work’. Also from a safety aspect it is always recommended as best practice.

Removing the Winter Debris Cover (WDC):

- During the course of the winter it is more than likely that the cover has accumulated leaves and debris. Using the pool pole and brush sweep as much of the debris off as possible.
- The easiest way to remove a WDC is to unclip one end of the cover and with one person either side of the pool fold the cover over to the next pin. Then unclip that pin and fold the cover over on itself and continue this process until the cover has been removed.
- At this point if there is enough space in the garden you may wish to unfold it again and leave it to dry out and remove any last debris from the cover.
- This is also a good time to inspect the cover for any damage or wear & tear. Once satisfied you can now fold the cover back up and place it back in its storage bag. It may also be worth leaving it out to fully drain before storing it inside.

Recommissioning The Plant Room:

- If on the pool close-down you installed any compression or threaded bungs into the pool fittings now is the time to remove them and reinstall any face plates. You may need to reassemble any pipe work that was taken apart to drain out the water on the pool close-down. At this point it is good practice to make a visual check on all of the pipe work fitting paying close attention to fitting threads and O rings. If any are found to be faulty they can now be replaced.
- It is likely that the drain plugs for the pump, filter and heater were removed on the close-down to drain the water out of them. Check any threads and O rings and replace where necessary and reinstall them back in the equipment.
- Now on to re-priming the pool system. First close all of the suction valves. Set the multiport valve to waste, making sure, if there is an isolator valve on the waste line, that this is open. Remove the pump lid and fill the pump with clean fresh water and replace the pump lid. Ensure that the pump lid is free from debris. I usually find it easier to prime a pump using the sump or main drain line as there is very little chance of drawing any



The advertisement is a rectangular box with a blue border. On the left side, there is a photograph of a pool's mechanical room, showing a blue cylindrical tank, various pipes, and a metal ladder. On the right side, there is a white background with a blue wave graphic. The text 'LONDON SWIMMING POOL COMPANY' is centered below the wave. To the right of the wave are two circular logos: the top one says 'SPATA' and the bottom one says '30 YEARS'. Below the company name, the text reads: 'Specialising in below ground and moving floor pools. Services include consultancy and design, custom pool plant and water treatment.' At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a blue bar containing the phone number '020 8605 1255', the website 'www.londonswimmingpools.com', and the address 'Unit 1, Shannon Commercial Centre, New Malden KT3 4PT'. The phrase 'Engineering Excellence' is written in white on a blue background at the bottom left of the advertisement.

surface air that the skimmer possibly could. So open the sump valve and immediately turn on the pool pump and leave the pump running for 2–3 minutes. If the pump doesn't prime within 2-3 minutes close the sump valve, turn off the pump and repeat the process from filling the pump and try again. In some cases this may take multiple attempts before the pump fully primes.

- Once the pool pump is primed you can now bleed the air out of the remaining suction lines by opening and closing their respective valves until all the air has been purged from the system. Now that all the suction lines are purged of air you can turn the multiport valve back to normal filtration mode. Just make sure any isolator valves on the return line are open before turning the pump on.



Cleaning The Pool:

- Generally, when opening a pool there are two scenarios: 1. The water is clear or, 2. The water is green. Let's start with the pool that has clear water. The pool will probably have some algae growth on the walls and floor with leaf debris at the bottom of the pool. You can set up your pool cleaning equipment to the pool's filtration system or use your own portable boost pump kit. If you are using the pool's filtration system set the multiport valve to waste, ensuring any waste line valves are open. Also it is worth checking with the client beforehand that they are not using a cesspit as you do not want to be filling their tank with waste pool water. If they are using a cesspit you will have to use the boost pump. Now you can clean the pool as you normally would, but it's worth bearing in mind that all the time you are vacuuming to waste you are losing water from the pool.
- Once the pool has been cleaned you can use the pool pole and brush to brush up any remnants of algae and debris that has been left behind.
- After vacuuming the pool to waste the water level will have dropped, now is the time to top up the water level to normal running level.

- Now that the pool has been cleaned you can turn the filtration system back on to normal filtration mode to start filtering the water.
- Now using your chemical test kit check the chemical balance of the water. The main things to check would be: Chlorine, pH, TA and cyanuric acid. Now ensuring that you use the correct PPE, mix and dose the required amount of chemicals to balance the pool water and always follow the manufacturers' guidelines. Never mix different chemicals together and use separate clean containers for each chemical.

Cleaning a Green Pool:

A pool where the algae has grown substantially enough where you cannot see the walls or the floor of the pool.

- First you must turn on the pool's filtration system so that it is running in the normal filtration mode.
- Using the pool pole and pool brush sweep the entire shell of the pool lifting the algae off the surfaces and into suspension of the water.
- Now using your chemical test kit check the chemical balance of the water. Dose pool chemicals previously described.
- As this is a green pool it is best to use the method that is known as "shock & floc" which is dosing a larger amount of shock chlorine, being either calcium hypochlorite or liquid sodium hypochlorite in conjunction with a flocculent. At this point the swimming pool needs to be left filtering for the water to clear before returning for a second visit. It is worth asking for the client to update you when the water is clear enough to continue.
- Upon the return visit the first thing you should do is clear all the strainer baskets such as the skimmer baskets and the pump strainer baskets. Once these have all been cleaned you should backwash the pool filter as it will be quite blocked after filtering out all of the dead algae.
- Now from here you can go back and use the same procedure described for cleaning the clear pool.

Setting up the Solar Cover Back onto the Pool:

- Remove the reel and solar cover from where it was stored during the winter. Carefully remove any protective covering it was stored in. Visually check the cover for any damage that may have occurred during the winter and, once satisfied, position the reel system where it would normally be situated at the pool and carefully pull the cover back onto the pool surface.



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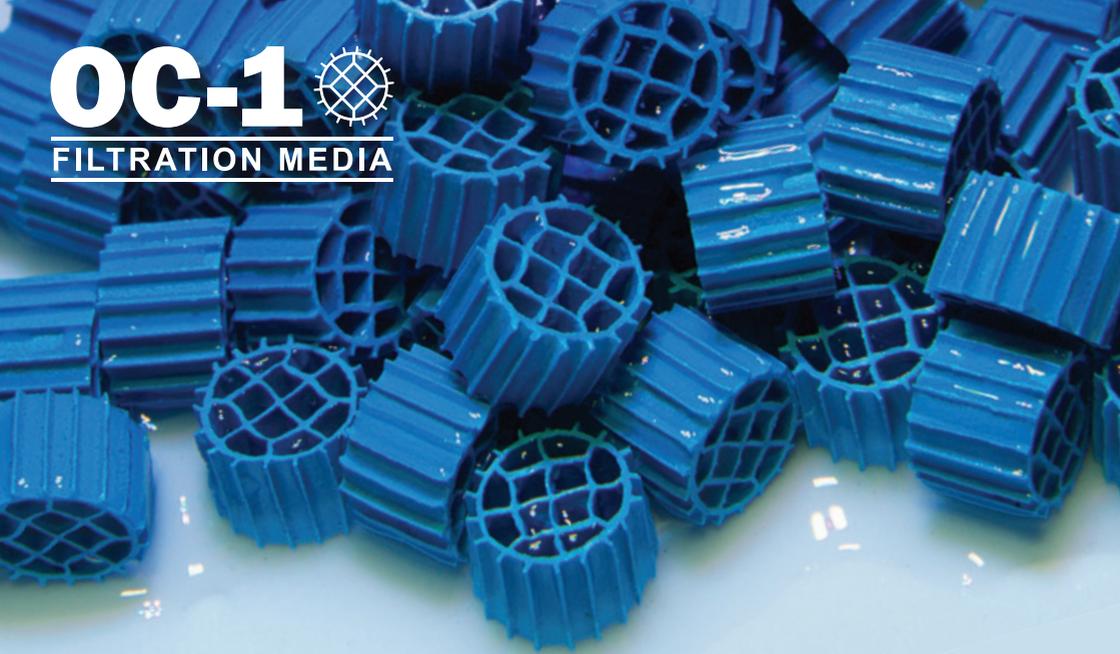


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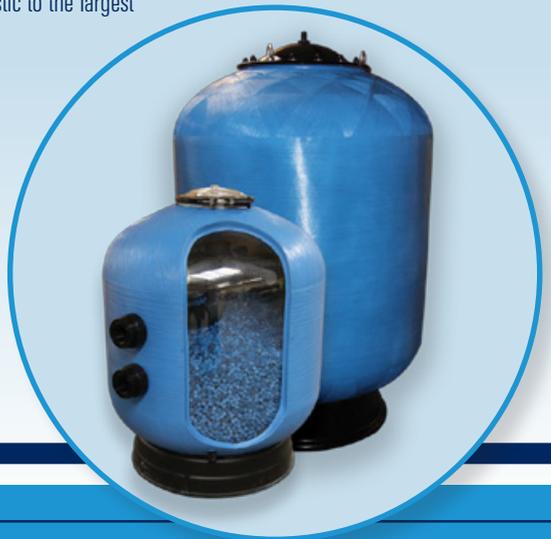


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- Once the cover is back on, use the pole and brush to rinse and clean the cover to remove any debris or residue which may have accumulated over the winter period.
- Clean and store away any protective coverings with the WDC until needed.

Turning the Heating System Back On:

- If the pool has a heating system, ask the client if they wish the heating to be turned on to start the heating process.
- If they do want it turned back on, ask them for the temperature they want it to be set to.
- If there are time clocks that control the running of the pump or heating, or both, ask the clients at what times they would like them to run at, but always make sure that the pool filtration pump runs a sufficient amount of time to achieve adequate turnover and filtration for the volume of the pool. Also, that any time clocks that are set to run the heating will turn off prior to the filtration turning off to allow time for the heater cool down process to occur. Failure to do this will cause irreparable damage to the heater unit.
- Inform the client that the pool is now ready for use, once up to temperature.

So there you have it, a brief description on how to open pools, easy right! but please make sure that you or employees are fully trained before carrying out this type of work. Have a good season and stay safe.

(If you would like this read to you in my droning voice please visit the ISPE website for the video :) - (*Coming soon - Ed.*)

FREE Water Analysis Training for all ISPE Members from Lovibond Tintometer

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Contact Lovibond at support@lovibond.co.uk for your link – sign up and start your chosen course – it's as simple as that.

Back to (the Future of) ISPE-Endorsed PPO Training

Now that a 'roadmap' has been announced of how the lockdown will be easing, many people will be wanting to catch up on their training and education, as most live face-to-face training stopped in March 2020. Plans for ISPE Seminars and Workshops to resume are in the planning stage and announcements will be made a.s.a.p. Keep an eye on the next ISPE Magazine out in early July and, in the meantime, the ISPE website (www.ispe.co.uk) News Page and Diary Dates.

For those working on the commercial side of the pool trade, with leisure facilities having been closed for most of the last year,

there will be a backlog of individuals requiring refresher training and Pool Plant Operator training in general. The ISPE endorses the PPO training provided by four companies listed below. Please contact the companies direct to discuss your requirements.

Leisure Safety Training Ltd.
Colin Jenkinson, MISPE
www.leisuresafetytraining.com

Pool Plant Training Delivered To Suit Your Needs.

Leisure Safety Training Ltd. has been delivering ISPE-endorsed pool plant training courses since 2012 for pool owners and operators across the country.

During the past year we have adapted our courses so they can now also be delivered remotely, direct to your home or office via Zoom and Teams.

We therefore can now offer a business a full suite of competitively priced **ISPE**-endorsed Pool Plant Operator courses that can be delivered via the traditional classroom method, remotely or through a blended learning approach.

These certificated courses can be delivered over one, two or three days depending on the level of training that is required.

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far more than just 'tick the box'. It should get the essential information across, deliver the skills needed, and also inspire people to put what they've learned into practice when they're at work.

The team at **Leisure Safety Training Ltd.** are dedicated to delivering a service that surpasses our customer expectations. Everybody is committed to upholding uncompromising quality standards. Our team of trainers are very experienced and highly qualified, continuously updating and upgrading their skills. Behind the delivery team there is a professional and experienced support team to ensure that customers receive the information, advice and guidance they seek and a level of service second to none.

All **Leisure Safety Training Ltd.** pool plant courses are delivered to the standards published by the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG) and Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools (HSG 179).

As well as delivering a range of **ISPE** pool plant training courses for the needs of the leisure industry, our portfolio of training courses now encompasses accredited courses from awarding bodies such as the NEBOSH, IOSH, Quasafe & Highfield.

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Our Principal Consultant is Colin Jenkinson (MISPE, CMIOSH, MIIRSM).

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Email:

office@leisuresafetytraining.com

Flowman Leisure Ltd.
John Mannion, MISPE and
David Lowe, MISPE

www.flowmanleisure.com

When lockdown occurred in late March 2020, there was a lot of uncertainty as to when pool plant training would resume. In the short term Flowman cancelled all courses due to run in April, May and June. We had numerous 3-day Technician and 1-day Revalidation courses scheduled right through to December but as the pandemic persisted it became apparent that there was little chance that they would be able to go ahead in their usual format. During the summer we began to look at the possibility of delivering courses via some of the digital platforms that were available (Zoom /Microsoft Teams). They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks – well we were about to disprove that theory!

Over and above unscheduled update courses, we had also run a large update course each October

for a number of years. The update was incorporated into a wider 1-day seminar with guest speakers and practical presentations delivered by our engineers who also mingled and made themselves available during coffee breaks and lunch time to answer technical questions.

In order to accommodate everyone who needed to update their qualification we decided to provide a raft of courses using the medium of Zoom over November and December 2020. They would be delivered by three tutors and we decided to engage a Production/Sound Engineer to co-ordinate everything and deal with all the technical glitches that can arise. That proved to be a master stroke because he managed to raise the bar higher than our ambitions could have expected. All three tutors had participated in numerous Zoom meetings and courses and had a clear idea of what they did and did not want the presentation to look like. All materials for the training were sent out electronically. They were all very well attended and the feedback via candidate course appraisal forms was extremely positive. As a result of moving the Update onto a digital platform we were able to accommodate everyone who required an update during 2020.

As we moved into 2021 it became obvious that this method of delivery would continue to be needed for a considerable period of time and with this in mind preparations are well advanced for our first 3-day Technician Certificate which will be delivered in

late March using Zoom again. We are continuing to use our Production Engineer to pull the whole thing together and feel optimistic that this will be a positive experience for all.

Going forward, Flowman feel future courses will be blended to suit the needs of the candidates. Classroom based courses will resume when it is safe to do so but because of the geography of Scotland, courses delivered using Zoom-type platforms may be more attractive to people who would normally have to travel long distances and incur the costs of both travelling and overnight accommodation, not to mention the length of time away from work and arranging staff cover. There have been hurdles to negotiate, but the old dogs have adhered to the old trick of 'Fail to plan – Plan to fail'.

GS Training and Consultancy

Geoff Stafford, MISPE

The ISPE-Endorsed Pool Plant Operator course is a two day course. The courses are provided throughout the year in response to enquiries from pool operators. The venues, ideally, are at the site where the students are employed. The course is delivered with the aid of PowerPoint, flip chart and practical sessions in the plant room and pool hall.

Syllabus

- 1 Introduction to pools and spas
- 2 Sources of water supply and effect on pool water quality
- 3 Physical, Chemical and Bacteriological Pollution
- 4 Controlling pollution. Dilution targets

- 5 Filtration and identifying problems
- 6 Disinfection and pH control
- 7 Pool water testing and the importance of balanced water control
- 8 Bacteriological laboratory testing
- 9 Corrective action in the event of gross contamination
- 10 PPE's and Health and Safety
- 11 Storage of COSSH, Material Data and Daily Test files
- 12 Revision

The course concludes with a 1hr exam. Students with a pass mark of 70% or above receive a ISPE certificate valid for 3 years. The certificate can be revalidated at any time within the 3 year period with a one day course.

The **GS Training and Consultancy** course is delivered by Geoff Stafford, MISPE who has over 45 years' experience in managing pools.

Email: geoff.stafford@outlook.com

Mobile: 07985745804

Julian Mills, MISPE

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Tales of a Travelling Heat Pump Man

Some ISPE members will remember this writer, Tony Bowen, MD of Calorex from the mid 80's to 2006, an eventful and enjoyable period. I and the Calorex team had great fun working on products and services for the UK pool market, but these tales refer rather to the markets all around the world where we found a welcome. So passports out, bags packed, off we go.

Over the years the ISPE Magazine has gleaned many a good story from pool men handling projects abroad, and the common theme is how different it usually is. Cultures, practices, currencies, competencies all vary wildly, and the representative of a product or company has to be ready for anything. No summoning a technician if there is a problem – no, it's more likely to be 'this is your product, please sort it out!' So, not for the faint hearted. I have two little illustrations for your amusement.

The first was an afternoon trip into Eastern Europe. I was met at the airport by the MD of our partner company with whom we had a great relationship. 'Lovely to see you Tony, lots to chat about...' pause -'but there is one urgent matter before we get to the hotel. We installed a Delta in a large private pool a couple of weeks ago and it's not working properly. The owner is the main national news reader and she says that if we don't sort it by tomorrow she's going to find a way of adding a news item which will shaft us.'

Oh dear! Quickly to site, blazer off, and pulled out the old woolly that I always carried 'just in case'. First inspection had all the mechanicals

working well but no boiler water reaching the unit. Plant room divided into sections, hard to follow the pipework – you get the picture, I'm sure – torch supplied running out of battery. In its last few glimmers of light I spotted an arrow pointing the wrong way. Eureka, a non return valve in the supply pipework wrongly installed, problem hopefully solved. We made the change, ran the unit up and then the happy call was made to the owner. I didn't need to watch the evening news after all, just sort out a pair of grubby trousers before being taken out for supper.

The other tale is from an up-market hotel in the Far East. Same scene, lovely to see you and... this time a Calorex plunge pool chiller not working. When I say not working there is a caveat – the plunge pool in question was at 11°C not the desired 10°C, and bathers – mostly Japanese – were complaining! Would you know the difference? No woolly this time, all far too hot, but a grovel around the ducting allowed a slightly improved air flow which got us 0.5 of a degree. Good enough – no. So more grovelling and we found an uninsulated pipe pinned neatly to the concrete wall of the heated pool. So lunch in the open air market, buy some insulation and job done. Happy Japanese the following day.

So, what pearl of wisdom emerges from these tales? Mine is - never drink alcohol on an outgoing flight! Or for those of you who may have been Boy Scouts – be prepared.

Tony Bowen, Hon.MISPE.

Product Profile

Golden Coast makes a splash in the hot tub accessory market

Poised to take advantage of its buying power and product knowledge, Golden Coast has recently launched its brand-new spa and hot tub accessory range: tubhub.



The tubhub collection has been curated to include everything a hot tub owner needs to maximise their spa experience. It is a one-stop-shop for products, covering every aspect of hot tub ownership, from access and maintenance, to relaxation and entertainment.

Following years of planning and research, its creation represents the next stage in the natural evolution of the well-known and trusted Essentials range.

With tubhub, Golden Coast will be directly sourcing more accessories in order to respond quickly to market demand, while delivering the full support and customer service of #TeamGC.

Available for immediate despatch, all products are supplied complete with a guarantee for product quality.

“This new venture will essentially transform the supply chain, as we will be empowered to provide our customers with the exact products and services they are looking for,” explains Adam Clark, Sales Director at Golden Coast.

“We have sourced many products directly from the manufacturer, so we can not only vouch for the quality, but we are better equipped than ever to provide follow-up support at every stage, from order to installation and beyond.

“For hot tub retailers, tubhub presents an attractive opportunity to update their showroom with new and exciting products. Accessories can be a lucrative source of additional sales at the point of purchase.”

For more information on tubhub, contact a member of the Golden Coast sales team on 01271 378100, email swimmer@goldenc.com or visit www.goldenc.com

ISPE Technical Papers

There are currently around thirteen titles available including 'Water Treatment for Pool Operators' (£10) 'Principles of Circulation' (£15) and 'Chlorine Donors' (£7) - all plus p&p. For the full list (more to be added soon) see the Publications page of the ISPE website (www.ispe.co.uk) and use the on-line order form or telephone 01603 499959.

ISPE Exams 2021

An announcement was made by ISPE in December 2020 that, due to the current pandemic, it would not be possible to hold the ISPE exams, originally scheduled for March 2021.

This is just to reiterate that a re-scheduled date, probably for September or even October 2021, will be booked at a suitable venue as soon as we are able and details will be sent to all ISPE students and publicised on the ISPE website and elsewhere.

New Members and Students

We extend a very warm welcome to all those who have recently joined or re-joined the Institute. If you have a colleague who would like more information on the ISPE and its activities, please email ross@ispe.co.uk or telephone 01603 499959 for more details.

Breed, M.	Penguin Swimming Pools
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Clohesy,	First 4 Pools
Darmanin, L.	Charles Micallef Swimming Pools Ltd.
Davis, B.	First 4 Pools
Easton, M.	Penguin Swimming Pools,
Furlong, A.	Perri & Beau Engineering Ltd.
Gaffey, P.A.	Gaffey Technical Services Ltd.
Harding, A.	Lighthouse Pools
Hurd, W.	Lighthouse Pools
Johnston, J.	Clearwater Marine Technology Ltd.
Lipinski, B.	Lighthouse Pools
Lovering, J.	Pool Care & Services
McKechnie, O.	Wet Leisure Engineering
Moorman, T.	Principools
Norris, M.	First 4 Pools
Pearson, N.	Principools
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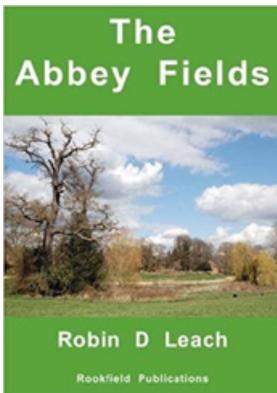
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The Story of Abbey Fields

ISPE Member John Taylor has, over the years kept us informed of the goings on at Abbey Fields, situated in the middle of Kenilworth, Warwickshire. Abbey Fields is parkland of just under seventy acres, once farmland owned by St. Mary's Abbey, the ruins of which remain in the park.

John kindly supplied a copy of an excellent book by Historian, Robin Leach, entitled "The Abbey Fields", published by Rookfield Publications, in addition to numerous newspaper cuttings, from all of which, this summary is taken. Copies of the book are available through various on-line sellers for those who would like to read more about this interesting corner of Kenilworth.



*'The Abbey Fields' by Robin D Leach
Available from various suppliers for
around £12-20.*

This story may be of interest to some ISPE members and other readers as Abbey Fields includes a public swimming pool which has been hugely altered over the years and in more recent years has been the cause of much anguish and

debate to those who have used it and would like to continue to use it. In fact people have been swimming in Abbey Fields even before there was a pool and there are stories of local youths swimming in the brook which runs through the park, going back to the mid-1800s. After the central 40 acres of the park was purchased by the newly formed Kenilworth Local Board from Lord Clarendon in 1884, for recreational purposes, the first 'proper' swimming pool was eventually constructed and opened in June 1896. This was around 75 feet by about 35 feet with a depth ranging from 2ft 6" to 5 ft. The final cost of the build was £470.

The pool was well used initially, although mixed bathing was not permitted. In fact, despite figures of 119 men and 9 boys using the pool on its opening day, by 1900 only about 1,000 used it all year and only 2 ladies! Mixed bathing sessions were not permitted until 1925 and by 1930 the pool was regularly crowded, sometimes dangerously so. With water still being supplied by the brook and after a few hot summers, the water quality deteriorated and the pool was closed for health reasons in 1934.

Within 9 months of its closure a new enlarged pool was opened, by now featuring a filtration and water treatment system, although the water was still unheated. Changing rooms and diving boards were added, as well as a cascade water aerator.

The pool was well used and by 1965, it was further enhanced with the addition of a new changing room and an entrance kiosk. There were by then plans to further develop the

site to include an indoor pool.

Following a campaign, the pool water was eventually heated by mid-1970.

The pool became even more well-used, so much so that numbers had to be limited and plans to construct a new indoor pool were formulated by Warwick District Council. In 1986, the pool was remodelled to include a greatly reduced main outdoor pool (to save on the water heating cost), a toddler's pool was incorporated within the original pool shell and an indoor pool was constructed.

By 2018 Warwick District Council had mooted plans to close the outdoor pool completely and replace it with an indoor training pool. This met with a huge backlash from many of the residents of Kenilworth and a campaign group known as 'Restore Kenilworth Lido' was formed to try to ensure the future of the outdoor pool which in some form had existed for over 120 years by then. However, in January 2019 Warwick District Council's Executive voted unanimously to close the outdoor pool as part of the plans to replace it with the proposed training pool. This caused more anger to many and the campaign vowed to continue its fight to keep the outdoor pool open.

A petition of over 1,000 signatures in favour of re-opening the outdoor pool was submitted to the Council in late 2019 and it was hoped that the pool might open for one last season. However, this wasn't to be as the Covid pandemic closed all leisure facilities, but in Summer and Autumn 2020 the campaign continued to try to get the plans for the new indoor pool paused and open the outdoor pool in the

meantime. The Council have, reportedly, started to look at alternative sites where outdoor swimming could be provided, away from Abbey Fields, but the pool remains closed as the plans to remove it appear to be going ahead.

I am sure there is much more to come in the story of Abbey Fields!

We are most grateful to John Taylor who has kept us informed of the developments in Abbey Fields, and John suggested an ongoing article in the ISPE Magazine entitled, 'Pools in Your Area'. In this article I have only scratched the surface of the history and development of the Abbey Fields pool but if you have interesting stories behind pools in your area that you would like to share with the ISPE members and other readers of the ISPE Magazine, do let us know.



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ISPE Workshop Summary

Microbiological Testing by David Ramsden

We are grateful to David Ramsden from Complete Pool Controls Ltd., who has provided this summary of his ISPE workshop at Virtual SPATEX. As always, please bear in mind that this is adapted from a twenty minute presentation and it is not possible to cover every aspect of this important topic, other than by way of an introduction to the subject. Please ask if you need further guidance.

Background

- 2020 increase in Hot Tub Sales
- Potential increase in hot tub associated problems
- Need to follow latest guidance (HSG 282)
 - User Safety
 - Protection of staff
 - Cost avoidance
 - Peace of mind

Microbiological testing is an important part of a good robust hot tub routine. With use and over time, bacteria can develop in your hot tub, this forms in the filters, pipework, pillow etc. Bacteria starts to form as a thin film which can be off-white, green or black. This film is made of organic substances (mostly dead cells and bacteria). Once it settles in your water, it becomes much harder to maintain clear safe water.

What are we testing for?

Legionella species

There have been a number of outbreaks linked to hot tubs in leisure centres, hotels, holiday homes and display spas. Everyone is susceptible to infection but there are higher risks groups that operators need to be aware of.

Coliforms and E Coli – (Escherichia)

The presence of E coli in hot tub water indicates that faecal material has entered the water and the presence confirms that the treatment routine has failed.

Pseudomonas Aeruginosa

Numerous outbreaks of folliculitis caused by P aeruginosa are associated with hot tubs and this infection presents itself as a red rash (infection of the hair follicles). Severity is directly related to the duration of immersion as well as the degree of contamination.

Mycobacterium species

An atypical mycobacterial infection causes respiratory illness in humans. It usually first presents as a persistent cough and needs to be treated with a series of three antibiotics for a period of at least six months.

When do we take a sample?

The frequency and extent of the microbiological sampling strategy should be determined by the risk assessment.

At least monthly for micro:

- ACC (aerobic colony count)
 - The ACC gives an indication of the overall microbiological quality.
- Coliforms

- E coli
- Pseudomonas Aeruginosa (aerug - i – nosa)

Quarterly:

- Legionella

Ideally sampling should be done when the spa is in use, preferably when heavily loaded or immediately afterwards.

Additional microbiological sampling should also be taken:

- When a spa pool is first used or recommissioned
- After a report of ill health following spa-pool use
- Where there is doubt about the effectiveness of the control regime
- Where there has been a contamination incident
- Where alterations are made to the treatment or maintenance regimes



For more details see: <http://www.cpc-chemicals.co.uk/>

Apology and Correction from the Last Issue

We apologise to Dave Lowe, MISPE and John Mannion MISPE of Flowman Leisure Ltd., for somehow mistyping their website address in the last issue in an article about ISPE-Endorsed Training. The correct email address is www.flowmanleisure.com. You can see more about Flowman Leisure Ltd., in this issue on page 14.

Also, from the last issue (January ISPE Magazine), thanks to David Hallam, MISPE, Jimmy Lamb, FISPE has since corrected a reference in his article entitled “When is a 24” Filter not a 24” Filter?” Jimmy had said that SPATA Standards transition to high rate filtration at 30m/h whereas it is actually European Standards (EN16713) that transition to high rate filtration from 30m/h. (SPATA and PWTAG state 25-50m/h for high rate filtration).

Company and Product News

Pollet Pool Group says Goodbye and Hello

Staff and customers at Pollet Pool Group are united in wishing Peter Turnbull, MISPE, the very best in retirement as he steps down from his role as head of the UK division.



Peter Turnbull

“I want to pay tribute to the staff team at PPG who have made my time at the helm so very rewarding. Their hard work and dedication is, undeniably, second to none. I must also say a sincere thank you to the customers who have helped build PPG to unprecedented heights during my time with the company. We have enjoyed back-to-back record years in 2019 and 2020. Those who know me best, understand that personal circumstances make this the appropriate time to step down and pass on the baton to enable the next exciting Pollet UK chapter to be written.”

Peter has worked tirelessly to hand over the reins to incoming General Manager, David Sargentson, who is keen to build his own relationship with the UK trade. David joins us with over 25 years experience of manufacturing and distribution within the construction products and water industry sectors, more latterly as a Regional Director with the UK's largest building materials supplier, Travis Perkins. “I'm excited to be joining Pollet Pool Group UK & Ireland at a time of group investment

and growth in the region, and look forward to meeting and getting to know our Customers as the restrictions hopefully relax over the coming months.”

Onwards and upwards for Fairlocks Pool Products in 2021

Following a successful 2020, Fairlocks Pool Products needed larger premises, having been based in Long Hanborough since the business started back in 2006.

So, after extensive searching, new premises were identified in Weston on the Green, near Bicester, Oxfordshire with great access to both the A34 & M40 and on January 4th, 2021 the company relocated to Unit 3 Landscape Close. The new unit is spread over two floors, with an ideal size ground floor warehouse and workshop area, along with a large open plan office on the first floor.

This represents a massive step forward as it means much more stock can be held ready for quick shipment to the pool trade throughout the UK, which is perfect timing as this year Fairlocks Pool Products goes from strength to strength, by adding some exciting and attractive NEW products.

Following the purchase in 2020 by the TSPH Group of Aarschot, Belgium (Covrex & LPW) of Walter Pool Products, both the WaluLock Automatic safety cover and WaluDeck are two products now on offer. Based in Brumath France, Walter is an established manufacturer of an extensive range of pool covers and related products.

And as if that isn't enough the brand new Trotec range of wall mounted dehumidifiers is also being introduced. Manufactured in Germany the DS series offers highly efficient moisture control and heat recovery in

indoor swimming pools or spas. Developed in conjunction with highly regarded Richard Carrington these units are suitable for both new and retrofit installation.

Product Profiles

The WaluLock Automatic Pool Cover

100% comfort, 100% Design

WaluLock is the cover that combines comfort and safety. As it is automated, handling it is child's play. It allows quick opening and closing at the turn of a key, so the pool can be easily used and enjoyed.

This cover is completely waterproof, so any pool will stay clean in summer and winter alike, it is completely waterproof around the whole cover perimeter, and also prevents heat loss and stops evaporation.

WaluLock is completely automatic, made in France, fully compliant with the NF P 90-308 Standard (tested by LNE). It offers four types of rails suitable for all pool types with 4 track options, automatic hydraulic motors, and a choice of 7 colours, it is set to become the cover of choice for 2021.



CovLock Automatic Pool Cover

The WaluDeck Rolling Deck Pool Cover

The design and clever deck, WaluDeck totally revolutionises the approach to pool & spa covers.



CovDeck Rolling Pool Deck

This 100% safe rolling decking slides over the spa or pool, combining both design and practicality. Watch as the pool is transformed into a real treat in under two minutes by the greatest facility, 2 in 1!

This innovation wins over more customers every year by building up a reputation as a must have for pool and spa covers! They love the resolutely elegant and clever design of this decking, as it will make their life easier and give them more space.

TROTEC Dehumidifiers

Now available from our UK stock Trotec Dehumidifiers are ideal for all indoor pools and spas, manufactured using high-quality German engineering these units are an exciting addition to our range.

The two models, DS 30 and DS 60 are specifically developed for swimming pool hall dehumidification and include quiet running and powerful radial fans, insulated compressors, and polyester-coated heat exchanger surfaces to protect against corrosion.

Both wall-mounted units are easy to install, work fully automatically and can extract large amounts of moisture from the room air, even in air temperatures as low as 5°C.

For all enquiries regarding not only these exciting new products but also the rest of our line-up, please visit our website www.fairlocks.co.uk or call 01869 934333.

ISPE Workshop Summary

Pool Liner Problems

By Will Dando, FISPE.

We are grateful to Will Dando, FISPE, for supplying the following summary of his ISPE Workshop presentation, first shown at Virtual SPATEX. As with the other workshop summaries in this issue, please seek further specialist advice before embarking on a project as it is not possible to cover every aspect of the subject in a twenty minute presentation.



Vinyl swimming pool liners have been used in the UK for over sixty years and generally it is a very straightforward and successful method of producing a beautiful watertight finish for a domestic pool. Sometimes though, things don't go to plan, so here is a rough guide looking at the complete process highlighting what the pool contractor should look out for to avoid the unnecessary problems.

The best place to start is with customer expectations, a frank and open discussion as to what can and cannot be achieved within the budget available will always be prudent. In this discussion the limitations of the vinyl should be made clear, patterns cannot be matched along the material joins, the pool itself must be run as a domestic pool with temperature, bathing loads and water balance being kept within agreed standards. There are also limitations regarding the type of pool a vinyl liner is suitable for, be this the design of the pool having dished or overly complicated areas or the intended use of the pool not being truly domestic. The main facts and decisions made at this point should be confirmed back to the customer, preferably in writing.

Once this has all been agreed the details of the required liner type and pattern as well as details of the exact dimensions of the pool have to be carefully and fully communicated to the pool liner manufacturer. The dimensions, preferably in metric, should be taken and recorded very carefully and checked to ensure they are not only correct but also add up. If there are areas of concern the best and easiest solution is to talk to the liner manufacturer to explain and solve any issues, either with extra information or even a change in the choice of product.

This is where the responsibility is passed onto the manufacturer. The process of taking the order details and producing the finished liner is a well-practiced, and in the most part, automated process. Standard reductions are applied and the majority of liners cut and shaped by automated cutting machines with minimal intervention from the operatives, other than quality control.

The welding of the liner sections together to form a finished complete liner is a highly skilled job, using a specialised high frequency welding machine that has been set up with the correct pressure, time and power settings to allow the touching faces of

the material to permanently bond together. Once this is set, the only causes of an unsuccessful weld would be by contamination where there is a film between the faces isolating them from flowing into each other.

Alternatively, a small piece of grit or similar trapped under the weld bar can cause a flash out where the high voltage differential tracks through the material blowing a hole the size of a ten pence piece! This is very easy to spot.

During the manufacture, checking and packing process, the procedure and handling methods are all created to specifically look for the above problems and avoid damage to the liner. As is the case on site, a folded liner should never be dragged along the floor but lifted carefully to avoid any friction or abrasion even on the specially protected liner factory floor areas.

Temperature is a factor that should be taken into consideration at all stages as it affects the pliability of the material. Is vinyl the correct material for the intended water temperature? Is the liner being manufactured and fitted in the summer or winter? Extra care when handling the liner during these processes is necessary. The reductions taken however are constant, so that the fit of the liner is kept suitable for the shape of the pool and to ensure a correctly tensioned liner for the rest of its working life.

The fitting of the liner correctly into the pool shell is also very temperature dependant and should not be undertaken if it is below fifteen degrees centigrade, including any wind chill. This is because at lower temperatures the material becomes increasingly inflexible. Careful preparation of the pool shell should be done to ensure it is ready to accept

the lining with all fixtures and gaskets in place and every last piece of loose dirt removed. It is also most important that the liner fitting process is understood fully, in that the liner must be positioned carefully in place, vacuumed back into position ensuring an even tension all over, vertically and horizontally, before filling is commenced. It is also imperative that no cuts are made in the liner unless the liner cannot move away from where the cut is being made and the liner as a whole is accepted by the pool contractor.

Fitting liners with complicated areas such as coving or built in steps is not something that can be taught simply in an article like this and is really only truly mastered with experience as well as patience and a thorough understanding of the procedure and pitfalls.

Problems do obviously occur after the pool is up and running. These can range between creasing, staining and bleaching. All avoidable if the pool is run 100% correctly, but this is only at all possible if the user has been fully informed or preferably trained in the running of a vinyl pool. This is best done at handover with comprehensive instructions that cover water treatment and the parameters that this type of pool should be run at.

In conclusion, most of the problems that occur with vinyl pool liners, be it during the construction of the pool, the liner or afterwards, can be avoided by just two things: knowledge and communication. With these skills and the correct materials and tools, beautiful pools can be built by this method and will continue to be for many years.

See: <https://www.plasticpools.net/>

Evoqua's Neptune Benson Makes Waves with Advanced Regenerative Media Technology

New High-Performance *Defender® FP-Series Filter Unveiled for Small Aquatic Venues*

PITTSBURGH, PA – February 03, 2021 - Evoqua Water Technologies Corp. (NYSE: AQUA) today announced the introduction of the Defender FP-Series regenerative media filtration (RMF) system designed to deliver maximum performance for swim schools, health clubs and other small to medium size commercial aquatics venues committed to providing their guests with exceptional water quality with the lowest operational costs. The next generation Defender® FP series targets smaller pools than the original Defender® line, bringing the same superior performance, quality and product support to a new segment of pool owners.

Owners of facilities such as swim schools, health clubs and other similar size venues can achieve significant operational savings as compared to conventional sand filtration, including up to 90% less water wasted in backwashing, 50% less energy consumption, and 30% less chemical usage – while achieving unparalleled water quality and clarity. In addition, the amount of space required for the Defender FP-Series filtration systems is approximately 75% less than the space required for conventional filtration systems.

“The benefits of Defender® RMF technology have been recognized for decades,” said Herve Fages, President of Evoqua’s Applied Product and Technologies segment. “However, the technology was primarily suited for larger venues. We are excited to bring this new FP-series to an expanded segment of the commercial aquatics market and to a new set of customers.”

Designed with advanced modeling tools and validated through extensive laboratory and field testing, the FP-Series filter is suitable for applications requiring flow rates between 107-300 gallons per minute (24-68 m³/hr) of filtration. The FP-Series also incorporates our latest cleaning technology called the PowerBump™ system which greatly reduces maintenance and increases reliability.

The Defender FP-Series Filter was developed by Evoqua’s Neptune Benson, a leading provider of RMF technology. With over 60 years of experience serving the commercial aquatics market and thousands of systems installed worldwide, Neptune Benson continues to develop innovative products that make pools cleaner, safer and healthier for bathers.

When used in conjunction with the Evoqua Wafer® UV generator, the Defender RMF provides improved air and water quality. Exposure to pathogens is significantly reduced and the best water clarity is achieved, providing the optimal experience for pool guests.

For more information on the Defender FP-series, visit: evoqua.com

Plastica continues to expand its production

Last year Plastica invested in a new unit to expand its growing Water Treatment department. The company have managed to keep manufacturing while adhering to social distancing rules throughout lockdown and orders have been escalating. Therefore, a decision was made to expand into a nearby 5,000 square foot unit which has enabled more storage space and room for an automated filling and capping machine. This has been successfully run by a team of experienced water treatment staff and the extra space will

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(continued from page 30) increase Plastica's manufacturing capacity while still maintaining social distancing protocols.

Above ground pools are continuing to be a popular choice with end-users. To keep up with demand, Plastica took the decision to move their liners department to a unit close to the new water treatment building, allowing more space for storage and working areas. In addition, we are installing a new Optimised Automatic Cross Cutting machine to increase productivity. Our Timber Products manager says, "This is good news for the department, the new cross cutter will improve accuracy and increase workflow and the additional space will help with packing our pool kits."

With the new NAZCA range of pools now in the 2021 Price List, the final kits will be in production later this year. Plastica need space to manufacture and build these kits ready for despatch. The rectangular shape of the three models in this range has been designed to make the manufacturing process efficient and to make the installation simpler and quicker for the customer. The versatility of the NAZCA range lends itself to many forms of use: the long 8x2m pool's main purpose is as a lap pool, 8x4m or 4x2m are perfect family fun or relaxation pools but also ideal for conversion to an exercise pool with the simple addition of an over-the-wall counter current.



Plastica's new automated cutting machine



A completed Plastica above ground wooden pool

Manufacturing during such unprecedented times has been a challenge over the last year, but Plastica has risen to the challenge, kept production going and feel grateful to be part of a booming industry.

For more information on what Plastica have to offer, please visit our website: www.plasticapools.net

Until Next Time...

The next issue will be out in early July, so please let us have your company and product news and technical articles, of course!

Many thanks to all those who contributed items to this issue and apologies to those who sent items in that are not included; they will be in the next one!

We hope to have some of the ISPE Workshops from Virtual SPATEX on the ISPE website soon and now that things are starting to ("irrevocably" - according to our PM) open up again, after a very strange year, discussions are now in place to reintroduce live ISPE Seminars and Workshops in the Autumn/Winter.

There are lots of pool companies crying out for new employees so see the situations vacant section of the ISPE website.

I hope you all have a successful Spring and start to the Summer.

Keep busy!

Ross Alcock - March 2021.

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InverTech



10 times quieter than a normal On/Off Heat Pump
Quieter than a Domestic Fridge in Silent mode

Quiet DC ventilation system and Mitsubishi DC inverter compressor



Full-inverter™ Technology (All models have softer start technology)

COP up to 15 at Air 26°C/Water 26°C/Humidity 80%

COP up to 8 at Air 15°C/Water 26°C/Humidity 80%



VARI SPEED - ALL MODELS

Full speed at start of season for fast heating. Then Slower speeds once pool water is near to set temperature. Resulting in slower speed operation and reduced running costs for rest of the season!



7 years warranty on compressor

2 years parts warranty



Operates at air -7°C below zero

Maximise your pool season with heating capabilities at Air Temp down to -7°C



**NEW WIFI
CONNECTIVITY
and App for 2019**



SCP[®]
Where Outdoor Living Comes to Life

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FOR MORE
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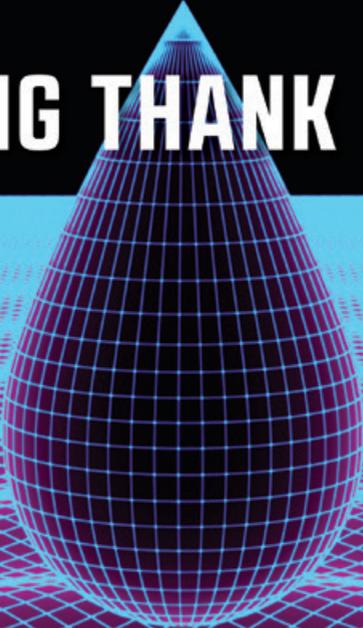


SPATEX VIRTUAL

THE POOL, SPA & WELLNESS SHOW

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY - THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2021

A BIG THANK YOU



A big thank you to everybody who participated at SPATEX Virtual and for making the unique event such an industry-wide success!

SAVE THE DATES 1 - 3 FEBRUARY 2022

ERICSSON EXHIBITION HALL • RICOH ARENA • COVENTRY UK