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I've got one thing to say to exhibitors at KBB... "AMPLIFICATION!". Honestly, it's as if companies seek out the most softly spoken member of staff they have and then force them to address 15 journalists, all forced to crane their necks and put their lip-reading skills to the test while being whispered to across a busy trade show.

Can you tell I'm angry?

But seriously... the entire industry has travelled to Birmingham to hear about your products. BE LOUD – BE PROUD.

Hats off to the likes of InSinkErator; they had multiple speakers, ALL with microphones and ALL audible. I won't name and shame the various companies who fell foul of librarian syndrome, but it was sad to leave a 'press conference' none the wiser.

Anyway, I thought KBB was fab (apart from whisper-gate) so well done and thank you.

Enjoy the issue. I'm off to calm down.

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Rising expectations reshape the bathroom market

“We’re seeing bathrooms becoming increasingly valued as spaces that offer comfort, style and a sense of wellbeing, moving beyond their traditional functional role. This shift has sparked a focus on wellness-led designs that transform everyday routines into more indulgent, personal experiences.

Smart sanitary solutions, such as shower toilets like the Geberit AquaClean range, are playing a key role in this evolution. With personalised washing and drying cycles, heated water, hands-free operation and intuitive controls, these products make hygiene effortless while adding a level of sophistication. Meanwhile, sleek, ergonomic designs further enhance the sense of luxury, turning a routine task into a spa-like moment.

We’re also seeing more sustainable products gaining importance in bathrooms, with water-efficient features ensuring high performance while supporting environmentally conscious practices. Innovative flush systems, such as the Geberit Sigma40, also contribute by combining water efficiency with quiet, reliable operation. Together, these innovations demonstrate how modern bathrooms can balance functionality, luxury and wellbeing, creating spaces that feel both practical and restorative.”

Comment by Sonia De Gioia, Sales Director (Showrooms), Geberit

Lighting as the bathroom mood-setter

We’re experiencing a clear shift in attitudes towards lighting in bathrooms. Because consumers can’t rely on lamps in bathrooms, integrated lighting is the simplest way to create ambience and depth.

Mirrors and cabinets provide the perfect foundation, meaning they are no longer just functional, and have become a way for people to tune a bathroom to their mood. Consumers want lighting that flexes with them, which is why colour temperature control is gaining traction. Cool white supports morning tasks: a warmer tone softens everything for evening wind-down. Crucially, that single control adds layers without needing multiple fittings, and it avoids using the main light which can make a room feel extremely one dimensional.

The aesthetic is evolving too. Diffused LEDs deliver a clean, dot-free glow from every angle, while integrated touch points keep the glass visually calm. We’re also seeing a demand in discreet, ghost-style illumination, so the mirror reads as pure glass, not a gadget.



Comment by Jasmine Rowe, Product Design Lead, hib

The Rising Influence of Quiet Luxury, Sustainable Design and Accessibility

In 2026, evolving expectations around quiet luxury, sustainability and accessible bathing solutions are shaping the UK bathroom trade industry. For manufacturers like Trojan, our success depends on aligning product design with these priorities and maintaining strong trade partnerships.

We are seeing the influence of the quiet luxury trend on commercial decisions across residential and hospitality projects. Merchants and installers are increasingly favouring refined, timeless products that provide quality through materials, durability and consistency rather than overt branding.

Sustainability has also become a priority. With growing regulatory and ESG pressures alongside water efficiency, responsible sourcing and product longevity are key industry success factors. Manufacturers must deliver compliant, high-performing solutions that reduce environmental impact without compromising reliability.

At the same time, changing lifestyles and the UK’s ageing population are accelerating demand for accessible, space-efficient showering. Durable, installer-friendly systems that support safe, adaptable bathrooms are critical.

In this landscape, consistency, technical confidence and trusted partnerships will define long-term growth in the UK bathroom trade market.



Comment by David Mosley, Managing Director, Trojan

The Power of Subtle Colour...

Mixing tones and textures continues to play a defining role in bathroom design, with homeowners increasingly embracing layered palettes that create calm, spa-like spaces within the home. Nature-inspired shades such as calming greens, earthy woodgrains and warm neutrals are proving particularly popular across our ranges, bringing warmth, depth and a sense of tranquillity while maintaining a timeless appeal.

While social media may suggest a growing appetite for bold, vibrant colours, our sales indicate stronger demand for softer, more calming spaces.



Comment by Hayley Bowman,
Marketing Manager, Scudo

Matt finishes are particularly sought after, offering a refined and understated alternative to traditional high-gloss or polished chrome surfaces. These finishes introduce gentle texture and subtle visual depth, helping to create bathrooms that feel balanced, contemporary and considered.

The Colours by Scudo collection reflects this demand for cohesive design, offering perfectly colour-matched products across brassware, glass, heating and mirrors in six finishes, five of which are muted matt metallics.

Providing the right solutions for the right customers

In today's diverse marketplace, product segmentation can deliver real value only when it reflects the needs of different customer channels. Treating all channels the same can risk weakening both brand impact and customer trust. A channel-led approach ensures ranges, pricing, and support are designed around how customers actually buy.

For independent retailers, this is critical. Their success is built on differentiation, local relevance, and strong supplier partnerships.

Independent retailers need distinctive products that are the right size for their business and supported reliably, not just smaller versions of products designed for large chains. Aligning segmentation with channel needs, helps independents compete on value, not just volume.

Providing the right solutions for the right customers shows respect for retailers, consumers, and the brand. A thoughtful, channel-focused approach supports meaningful innovation, manageable product ranges, and sustainable partnerships with independent retail.



Comment by Kate Hurst,
Sales Director, Utopia

Wellness, Flexibility and Smarter Shower Design

Evolving lifestyle preferences are driving demand for accessible bathroom solutions and UK consumers are increasingly focused on wellness, seeking spa-like experiences within their own homes.

Clean, modern aesthetics, flowing lines and natural textures are shaping today's bathrooms. People want spaces that feel less purely functional and more like a private retreat. Delivering this depends on using materials and systems that make ambitious design ideas practical and achievable on site.

Flexible, easy-to-work-with building systems give designers and installers the freedom to create without compromise. At wedi, innovation is moving beyond tiles, supporting bold design while maintaining performance and reliability.

Looking ahead, sustainability and resource efficiency will shape the next phase of bathroom innovation. This means rethinking shower construction and performance from the ground up – with solutions that use fewer materials, improve efficiency so the shower gives something back, and cut weeks off traditional installation processes.

Comment by Iuan Davies, National Key Account Manager, wedi Systems (UK) Ltd



Who we saw at kbb Birmingham

Thousands of retailers, designers and buyers engaged with 320+ innovative brands across four days at KBB in early March. Here are just a few of the companies that left an impression as we strolled the halls.

Cyncly

The leading global provider of software and content solutions that help make amazing spaces for living, returned to kbb Birmingham to showcase its AI-enabled digital platform, which connects every stakeholder in the kitchen and bathroom business. With a growing AI-powered ecosystem, Cyncly is helping the kitchen and bathroom industry inspire consumers, improve accuracy and bring dream spaces to life faster than ever.

Visitors were able to see firsthand how Cyncly's complete design and business software helps kitchen and bathroom businesses deliver a seamless, connected experience from initial inspiration to final installation. Product highlights included the new Cyncly Websites platform; award-winning AI in Winner Flex, Spaces Flex and Virtual Worlds; an updated EQ Flex, and complete solutions for manufacturers.

Wynn Grubbs, General Manager, Kitchen, Bath and Furniture Retail Solutions at Cyncly, said, "Our mission is to connect the entire KBB ecosystem to enable faster, smarter, and more inspiring ways to bring ideas to life. We're helping designers, retailers and manufacturers take the next step forward, at a pace that fits their needs, so they can focus on what matters most: serving customers better and driving growth with greater efficiency."



Neolith

Neolith continued to strengthen its UK presence with a successful presence at KBB 2026. Collaborating with both TPB Tech and Rotpunkt, Neolith showcased the full potential of its sintered stone across contemporary living spaces, demonstrating not only versatility, but also a growing influence in next-generation interior design.

At the TPB Tech stand, the success of its strategic collaboration with Neolith was evident. In this partnership, Neolith contributed its 6 mm sintered stone slabs to form the top layer and aesthetic of TPB's advanced material. The integration of TPB tech's induction cooking technology with Neolith sintered stone offered live demonstrations that captured the interest of attendees. The public was able to experience how this collaboration with Neolith allows TPB Tech's solution to offer an invisible kitchen that combines elegant design with precision performance.

The incorporation of LED induction systems reinforced the compatibility of Neolith sintered stone as a component of the TPB Tech multilayer system, proving to be the ideal finish for this innovative technology.

InSinkErator

As major changes to recycling regulations came into effect across England in March, InSinkErator explored the future of food waste management at KBB Birmingham 2026.

From March 2026, food waste separation became mandatory for all households in England under the Simpler Recycling scheme. At this year's Birmingham show, InSinkErator discussed what these changes mean for kitchen retailers and consumers alike, highlighting how its food waste disposer products can complement composting and food caddy usage to maintain a clean and healthy kitchen.

InSinkErator educated visitors about the changing recycling legislation through its COMPOST CADDY EASY strategy, the brand's new educational campaign around modern food waste management. The team outlined the benefits and practicalities of its products as food waste disposal becomes an increasingly prominent national conversation. Oh, and we got a free recipe book from Emily English. Win!



SONAS Bathrooms

Ireland's leading bathroom manufacturer, debuted two new collections – The Living Collection and The Reed Collection – for the first time in the UK, as the company returned to KBB Birmingham for a second year.

SONAS' return to the show marked another step of the brand's expansion in the UK, showcasing new ranges that are designed to support retailers with coordinated, display-ready bathroom solutions that combine strong design with practical considerations for installation, compliance and long-term supply.

Both collections reflect SONAS' 'Assured by Design' philosophy, which focuses on developing product collections that will deliver aesthetically, commercially and technically for retailers, installers and homeowners. This 'Assured by Design' approach shaped the collections showcased at KBB, displaying products in complete environments that reflect the way that they are meant to be experienced in a showroom or in a home.

One of the collections featured was the Living Collection, which launched in late 2025, and introduces a versatile, modern furniture range characterised by a pill shaped lines and a refined colour palette, made up of five carefully curated shades.



CATA Appliances

CATA Appliances enjoyed a highly successful presence at this year's KBB Birmingham exhibition, with the brand's stand attracting strong interest from across the industry throughout the four-day show.

Located in a prominent position on the show floor, the CATA stand welcomed a steady stream of retailers, installers, distributors and industry professionals keen to explore the brand's latest appliance innovations and learn more about its plans for continued growth in the UK market.

With a bold stand design, striking product displays and live product demonstrations, the CATA team spent the show engaging in valuable conversations with visitors about emerging kitchen trends, appliance technology and the evolving needs of modern kitchen design.

One of the biggest talking points on the stand was the CATDD77CHF 77cm Vented Flex Zone Induction Hob, which was showcased in a clear Perspex display that allowed visitors to fully appreciate the integrated extraction system. The appliance attracted significant attention from visitors seeking a premium cooking solution that combines powerful induction performance with built-in extraction in a single streamlined appliance.



ArtiCAD and KBBConnect

ArtiCAD and KBBConnect reported a highly successful appearance at kbb Birmingham 2026, with a steady stream of visitors to the stand, including long-standing customers, brand new start-up retailers entering the market, and businesses moving across from competing platforms after recommendations from industry peers.

Throughout the exhibition, the team showcased multiple new products alongside a series of major software innovations, with particular excitement surrounding the introduction of AI-powered functionality within its flagship design software, ArtiCAD-Pro. Visitors were able to see how the latest developments are designed to streamline design workflows while helping designers produce even high-quality visuals and deliver a more engaging customer experience.

Among the highlights was the introduction of KPS.MAX, the brand-new design platform from parent company SHD, developed specifically for German kitchen retailers. The software attracted significant attention from businesses looking for a powerful, modern design solution tailored to their market. The team also unveiled habino, a new consumer-focused application designed to manage the after-sales process and support the entire retailer customer journey in one seamless platform.





Vent-Axia's Lo-Carbon PureAir Cleanse Sets a New Benchmark for Air Quality Monitoring

Vent-Axia has unveiled the industry's first dedicated continuous-running Decentralised Mechanical Extract Ventilation (dMEV) unit with an integrated indoor air quality sensor (IAQ). The Lo-Carbon PureAir Cleanse combines intelligent humidity control with advanced air quality sensing, which detects, measures, and helps clear the air of unwanted chemical pollutants, specifically total volatile organic compounds (TVOCs). Delivering industry-leading performance, the dMEV unit is highly efficient, offers near-silent operation with independently tested sound levels as low as 7.4 dB(A), and an attractive, sleek circular design.

Designed for continuous operation in domestic wet rooms such as bathrooms, toilets, and utility areas, the dMEV delivers effective whole-house ventilation while remaining exceptionally quiet.



A brand-new control platform provides fully adjustable airflow, allowing whole-house ventilation rates to be achieved easily using fewer fans. Providing simple installation and quick commissioning, an easy-to-use speed adjustment dial ensures operational speeds are met as required by Building Regulations.

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Balancing Beauty and Durability: Tile of Spain's Guide to Shower Tiling

As bathrooms become wellbeing-focused spaces, the shower is now a key design feature rather than simply functional.

According to Maria D Arráz, Director of Tile of Spain UK, choosing the right ceramic surface is essential to achieve both performance and style.

Ceramic and porcelain tiles are ideal for showers due to their water resistance, durability and low maintenance. Modern manufacturing techniques allow realistic stone, marble and concrete effects, offering a premium aesthetic without the upkeep. Unlike natural stone, porcelain is non-porous, stain-resistant and requires no sealing, making it perfect for busy bathrooms.



Large-format tiles create seamless, spa-like schemes with fewer grout lines, while textured finishes, mosaics and bold colours add character. Careful layout and grout choices further enhance the overall look.

Combining technical reliability with creative flexibility, today's ceramic tiles enable architects and designers to craft shower spaces that are both practical and expressive.

► www.tileofspain.com/en

Häfele becomes exclusive UK distributor of Miele appliances

Häfele UK has become the exclusive distributor of Miele's premium domestic appliances to select kitchen retailers, studios and showrooms.

Stocking a selected range of Miele appliances – including ovens, induction hobs, dishwashers, washing machines, fridge freezers, microwaves and coffee machines – and four complementary accessories, Häfele will provide reliable national coverage from its central UK distribution hub, with a 48-hour delivery promise to keep projects on track.

Founded in 1899 with its iconic 'Immer Besser' – translated as 'forever better' – brand promise,

Miele appliances are manufactured to the highest standards, reflecting over 125 years of German engineering excellence.

With uniform designs across product families, each focused on clean lines and timeless elegance, and with technology for intuitive handling and minimum energy consumption, the brand exudes expert craftsmanship. Supporting future-proof kitchen designs, Miele products offer seamless smart home integration, allowing users to run and monitor appliances remotely via the Miele App.

Products are designed for installation consistency across ranges, while Miele also provides personalised servicing and appliance

usage guidance, for smoother handovers and reduced post-fitting queries. Miele is known for its stringent quality controls with all products being stress and endurance tested before they reach the market. Registered appliances come with a two-year warranty for peace of mind.

Additionally, a comprehensive and dedicated aftercare support service of repairs and maintenance will be available to customers, delivered directly by Miele's in-house team of trained technicians.

► www.hafele.co.uk





Sensio Triumphs at KBB Birmingham with People's Choice Award

Sensio has concluded a landmark week at KBB Birmingham, the UK's definitive kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms exhibition. The event served as a premier stage for the company to showcase its latest advancements in LED technology, culminating in a prestigious win at the KBB Innovation Awards.

The highlight of the event was the Affinity magnetic track lighting system, which secured the coveted People's Choice Award. Voted for by industry peers and visitors, the accolade underscores Sensio's commitment to solving real-world installation challenges. Affinity redefines custom lighting by allowing users to simply stick the track to a surface and magnetise interchangeable LEDs and controls into place. Operating from a single power cable and a driver, the system reduces labour time and cost through the ability to run multiple LEDs without the need to chase each one.

The Sensio stand was divided into three immersive zones, beginning with the Innovation Zone. Here, Sensio showcased their Innovate 26 range, featuring the Pixel flexible LED panel

illuminating an Onyx countertop supplied by Stone Republic, Affinity for custom shelf lighting and a multitude of internal cupboard LEDs for enhanced convenience in the kitchen. The zone also highlighted Sensio's UK-based design team, who collaborate directly with partners to engineer tailor-made solutions.

In the Creation Zone, visitors engaged with Sensio's popular Plug-and-Play table to get hands-on with LEDs and controls, alongside joining taster training sessions and exploring Sensio's new online Training Portal to enhance knowledge on the go. Also featured was the effect of circadian lighting, with the team leading sessions demonstrating how shifting colour temperatures can support lifestyle and wellbeing.

Finally, the Illumination Zone highlighted Sensio's leap into illuminating the entire home. Featuring an ambient bedroom with simple touch sensor controls, a home office with voice-controlled LEDs to set the perfect working environment and an illuminated staircase with artisan storage beneath, this area demonstrated how lighting can create a statement while maintaining ease of integration.



Moving through the Illumination Zone, visitors also explored Sensio's range of LED mirrors designed to enhance both mood and task lighting within the bathroom. This included EVO+ patented lithium-ion battery technology for wire-free installation, as well as the launch of Sensio Studio, an exclusive range of luxury LED mirrors and cabinets for distribution partners.

By combining market-leading innovation with a proactive approach to service, Sensio utilised KBB Birmingham to demonstrate that while lighting can be complex, the solution should always be simple. It was a fantastic turnout, providing a valuable opportunity to connect with industry peers, and Sensio looks forward to exhibiting at the next event.



sensio®

▶ www.sensiolighting.com

Paul Berryman



Material and Manufacturing Quality in the KBB Industry

Paul Berryman, Head of Life Trade, explains how behind every well-installed project lies a series of decisions made long before products reach the showroom floor.

In the kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms sector, quality is often judged by the finished aesthetic: the smoothness of a door, the alignment of cabinetry or the reassuring feel of a drawer closing. Yet behind every well-installed project lies a series of decisions made long before products reach the showroom floor.

For industry veteran and Head of Life Trade, Paul Berryman - who has spent more than 33 years in the KBB sector, including 17 years in manufacturing and product development – those decisions begin with materials, processes and standards that ultimately determine how furniture performs in the real world.

Material Integrity and Core Construction

“At the heart of any cabinet lies its core material, and the quality of this core has a significant impact on long-term durability. During production processes such as cutting, edgebanding, routing and drilling, materials must behave consistently to maintain both accuracy and structural integrity.

One of the most important considerations is the quality of melamine-faced chipboard (MFC). Lower-grade boards often feature what manufacturers sometimes describe as a ‘Weetabix-style’ core - light, crumbly and lacking density. The result is a weaker substrate where threaded fixings struggle to grip effectively.

In cabinetry, fixings need something solid to bite into. If the board lacks density, you immediately compromise the long-term strength of the furniture. By contrast, a high-quality MFC core provides the stability required for secure fixings and structural reliability, ensuring cabinets remain solid throughout years of daily use.”

Edgebanding and Adhesives

“While core materials provide the structure, edgebanding plays a critical role in protecting panels - particularly in moisture-prone environments such as bathrooms and utility areas.

Polyurethane reactive (PUR) glue has become the preferred choice for many manufacturers due to its strong bond and water resistance. Once cured, PUR adhesives create a robust seal that protects boards from moisture ingress while maintaining a clean edge.

Material selection is also evolving. For many

years, 2mm ABS edging was widely used on cabinet fronts. However, manufacturers are increasingly shifting towards thinner 0.8mm ABS solutions. Thicker edging can expose the plain-colour core on woodgrain finishes, disrupting the visual effect. Thinner edging produces a cleaner appearance without compromising durability.”

Precision and Tolerances

“Consistency in manufacturing is another essential element of high-quality KBB furniture. Even minor deviations during production can create challenges during installation.

Industry expectations remain tight, with tolerances typically held within 0.5mm for both panel dimensions and drilling positions. Achieving this level of precision ensures components align correctly, reducing remedial work and making life easier for installers on site.”

Hardware and Mechanisms

“When it comes to hinges, runners and lifting systems, the market includes well-known brands such as Blum, Salice, Titus and Hettich.

These names carry strong recognition within the trade, but retail consumers are often less brand-aware when it comes to internal cabinet hardware. From my experience in global sourcing for major retail groups including Kingfisher plc and B&Q, performance criteria ultimately matters more than labels.

Products are assessed against benchmarks such as cycle testing, load capacity, durability and

reliability. If the hardware performs and meets the specification at the right price point, it can be just as valuable as a premium brand.”

Installation Quality and Fitters’ Confidence

“Ultimately, the success of any KBB project depends heavily on the installer’s experience. Fitters need products they can trust - components that arrive accurate, consistent and ready to assemble with minimal adjustment.

Rigid cabinets remain a preferred choice for many installers thanks to their stability and straightforward installation, although they also introduce logistical considerations such as higher transport costs and reduced packing efficiency. Regardless of format - flat-pack or rigid - the goal is the same: furniture that performs reliably and gives installers confidence.”

Why Quality Matters to the End Consumer

“For homeowners, a kitchen, bedroom or bathroom project represents a significant financial commitment and often involves disruption and complex decisions.

As a result, customers place considerable trust in retailers and manufacturers to deliver products that justify that investment. Every specification decision - from the density of the board core to the durability of a hinge mechanism - influences the long-term performance of the finished room.

The customer may never see what’s inside the cabinet, but they experience the result of those decisions every single day.”



Do More with your website

As the digital heart of your showroom, your website should do more than just showcase projects; it should actively turn online inspiration into booked design consultations.

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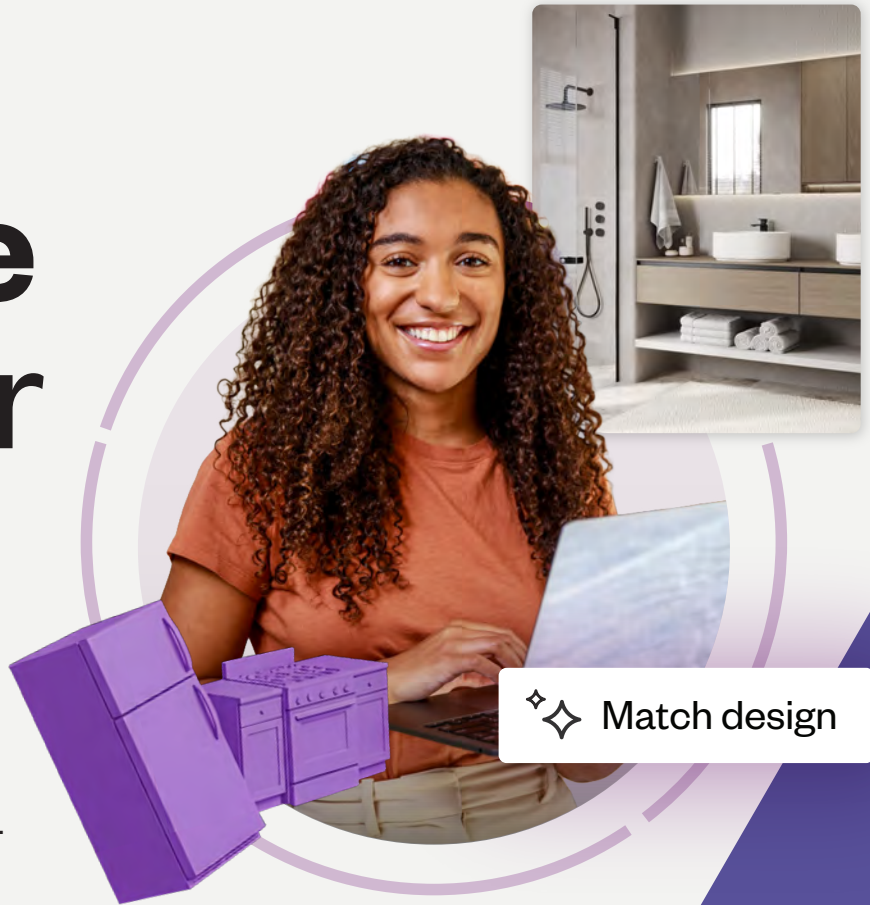
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Stefanie Coster

Saninet: Powering the Digital Showroom

With international expansion gathering pace and its Render module reshaping sales conversations, Saninet is accelerating its UK ambitions. **Stefanie Coster, Commercial Lead at Saninet**, speaks to BKU's Matt Broughton about balanced growth, AI's evolving role, and why human connection remains central to KBB software.

For Saninet, 2025 marked a year of transition and intent. **Stefanie Coster, Commercial Lead at Saninet**, describes it as “a busy and important year”, as the business shifted from being a strong solution primarily in Benelux to positioning itself internationally, with particular focus on the UK.

Among the key milestones was the launch of the Render module, which Stefanie says transformed how users present bathroom designs and significantly boosted adoption.

Alongside this, Saninet expanded its product library by onboarding more manufacturers and branded products, increasing the value proposition for showrooms.

The business also began focused marketing and sales activity in the UK, launching campaigns, building local relationships and adapting communication for the market. Stefanie explains that these steps laid the foundations for the growth the company is now experiencing.

Looking ahead, 2026 is being driven by what she calls “balanced growth” – maintaining a strong mainland European presence while accelerating expansion in the UK. That ambition is underpinned by onboarding new partners, including manufacturers and retail organisations, while deepening relationships with existing customers.

Stefanie points to untapped potential within modules such as the tile module, lead generator and integrations including the Simar connection. Despite growth plans, she is clear that accessibility and personal support will not change. The team, she says, is well prepared for the next stage.

Rendering reality in minutes

Simplicity has always been central to Saninet's proposition. Stefanie highlights that someone without prior training can design a complete bathroom in around ten minutes – a key advantage in busy showroom environments where staff must move quickly while supporting customers.

The Render module builds on that foundation. In just a few steps, an existing design can be converted into a high-resolution, photorealistic image. Instead of a technical drawing, customers see a lifelike visual of their future bathroom.

Showrooms are using this capability directly within the sales conversation. Customers can visualise everything from tiles and furniture to colour combinations and layouts in real time. Stefanie says this makes decision-making easier and builds confidence in the purchase.

Feedback from users consistently highlights two outcomes: a shortened sales cycle and improved conversion rates. When customers can see their bathroom come to life before it is built, uncertainty is reduced and commitment increases.

AI, automation and the human touch

Beyond Render, development continues across the platform, with particular emphasis on expanding the product library. With more than 40,000 branded items already available, Stefanie says there is still significant room for growth as more manufacturers recognise the value of being present at the design stage.

Saninet is also testing AI within its solution to support design, marketing, sales and helpdesk activities. However, Stefanie stresses that technology will enhance rather than replace the

company's personal approach. Accessibility and customer focus, she says, remain central.

Looking further ahead, Stefanie believes AI, automation and adoption will shape the direction of KBB software over the coming years. But she does not foresee a fully automated or purely online customer journey taking over.

“Bathrooms are emotional purchases,” she explains, noting that customers still want guidance and reassurance from professionals. In her view, AI and automation act as accelerators for human interaction, not substitutes for it. Technology can make processes faster and clearer, but trust and experience come from people.

Without emotion, she suggests, there is no brand – and without a brand, there is no growth.

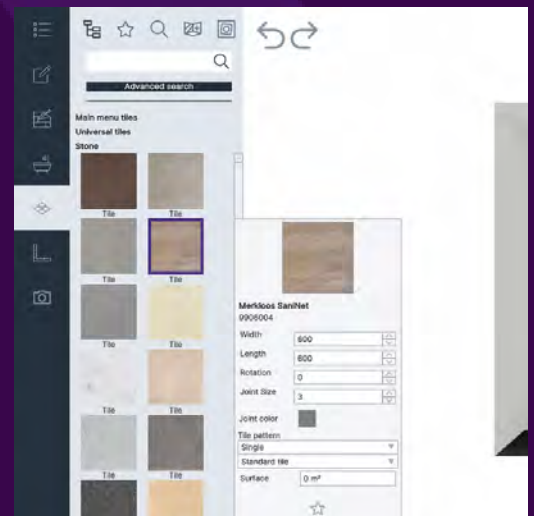
As for the UK, Stefanie is optimistic. Despite only recently launching dedicated campaigns and partnerships, Saninet is already seeing strong traction. The intention now is to strengthen that presence through 2026 and beyond, establishing the brand as a long-term partner for showrooms, retailers and manufacturers across the market.





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TruBlue: Driving More Intelligent Growth Across the KBB Industry

For today's KBB businesses, growth is no longer just about increasing sales. It is about operating more efficiently, making better decisions, and building stronger relationships across the entire business.

As the industry continues to evolve, more retailers and suppliers are recognising that sustainable progress starts with one critical area: how the business itself is run. This is where TruBlue is making a significant impact.

Designed specifically for the KBB sector, TruBlue is a fully cloud-based business management platform that brings together pricing, quoting, CRM, order management, and reporting into one connected system. It gives business owners complete visibility and control, helping them respond faster, work more accurately, and deliver a better experience for their customers.

At the core of the platform is a powerful and continuously expanding data engine, providing access to more than:

- 900 Brands
- 2,500 Pricelists

This depth of information allows retailers to quote with confidence, present richer proposals, and maintain accuracy across every stage of the sales and fulfilment process.

TruBlue also plays a vital role within the wider KBB ecosystem, acting as a bridge between retailers and suppliers. By improving product data, streamlining pricing, and enhancing communication, it helps both sides operate more effectively and build stronger, more collaborative relationships.

This momentum was clearly demonstrated at the KBB Show 2026 at the NEC, where TruBlue delivered its most successful exhibition to date. Building on its debut appearance in 2024, the platform saw a significant increase in engagement and user adoption, reflecting a growing demand for more connected and efficient ways of working.

Leigh Martin, Managing Director of TruBlue, explains: "We are seeing a clear shift in the industry. Businesses are actively looking for growth, but more importantly, they are looking for better ways to achieve it. A great place to start is by optimising how the business operates

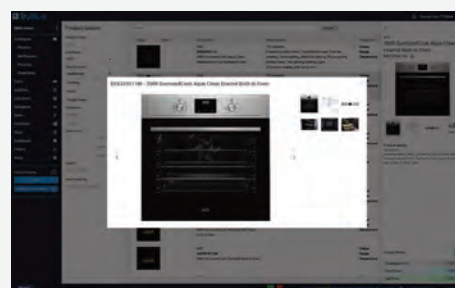
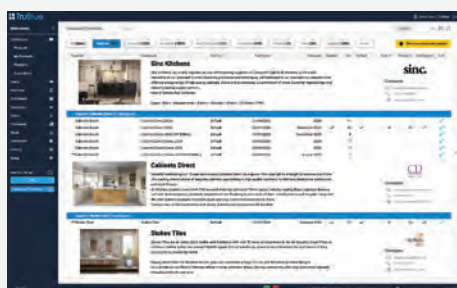
day to day. When you have the right systems in place, you gain clearer visibility, make more informed decisions more quickly, and create stronger relationships with both customers and suppliers."

As a cloud-first platform, TruBlue offers complete flexibility, allowing users to manage their business from anywhere. Integration with Zapier further enhances this, connecting TruBlue with third-party applications such as Postcode and BoldSign to automate processes and reduce manual workload.

With strong momentum following KBB 2026, the outlook for TruBlue is exceptionally positive. The focus remains clear: helping more KBB businesses improve performance, streamline operations, and thrive in an increasingly competitive market.



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Businesses across the UK KBB industry love using TruBlue

Communication is always excellent. It's an absolute pleasure to work with such a proactive and responsive company

Helen Clark
Utopia Group

The TruBlue team are fabulous to work with and extremely helpful. No challenge seems to faze them

Tom Ricketts
Roundhouse

As a process-driven manager, I have enjoyed working with the TruBlue team immensely to tailor the system to how we work at BK11

Adam Wollerton
BK 11

TruBlue is an essential tool that helps me run my business smoothly

Heath Everett
H Everett Interiors

Working in the cloud means I can log in and manage the business anywhere, at any time, the flexibility is brilliant

Aidy Childs
Colourhill Interiors

What truly set TruBlue apart was their exceptional customer support and swift action

Richard Osborne
Opulenza

We highly recommend TruBlue to all our customers and any business looking to streamline their operations

Dale Deeks
Cabinets Direct

If you're looking for software that truly delivers this is it

Kerrie Keegan
New Image

TruBlue brings everything together, creating visibility for every department in our customer's journey

Kristina Libertini
Kitchen Flair

Setup was swift, the platform is flexible and the team seamlessly migrated my valuable data onto the platform

Darren Mace
Kitchen Generator

Discover TruBlue and arrange your personalised demo at trublue.co.uk





Autokitchen: Bridging Design, Presentation and Manufacture

As the kitchen sector continues to evolve, the demand for software that can seamlessly connect design intent with manufacturing output has never been greater. Autokitchen positions itself as a comprehensive solution developed specifically for professionals who require both creative flexibility and technical precision.

A defining feature of the platform is the quality of its plans. Autokitchen produces clear, detailed drawings that serve both presentation and installation purposes, ensuring consistency from initial concept through to on site execution. This level of accuracy is increasingly critical as projects become more bespoke and detail driven.

Central to the system is the Catalogue Editor, a powerful tool that allows users to build fully customised catalogues. Designers and manufacturers can define parametric cabinets and construction methods, enabling the generation of precise part lists aligned with real world production processes. This significantly reduces the need for manual intervention and supports a more efficient workflow.

Complementing this is the AK Prices module, which introduces a high level of pricing automation. Costs are calculated dynamically based on materials, hardware and door selections, ensuring quotations remain accurate as designs evolve. The system also enables the automatic creation of structured PDF catalogues, allowing businesses to present their product ranges in a clear and professional format.

Order	Description	Width	Depth	Height
1	Island handle profile	200	600	790
2	Integrated appliance panel	600	600	790
3	Blind Beam Cabinet 2 doors	900	600	790
4	Pull out cabinet	600	600	790
5	Upper cabinet	200	600	790
6	Beam 2 doors, 1 drawer	800	1000	790
7	Beam 2 doors, 1 drawer	1000	600	790
8	Beam 4 drawers	480	600	790
9	Beam 2 pan drawers, 1 drawer	1000	600	790
10	Beam 2 pan drawers, 1 drawer	1000	600	790
11	Beam 2 pan drawers, 1 drawer	1000	600	790
12	Drawer 2 doors	800	320	1060
13	Drawer 2 doors	800	320	1060
14	Blind with brackets	1000	200	304
15	Blind with brackets	1000	200	304

Client: Microcod Software | Date: 08/03/2023 | Designer: Kaya Kemal

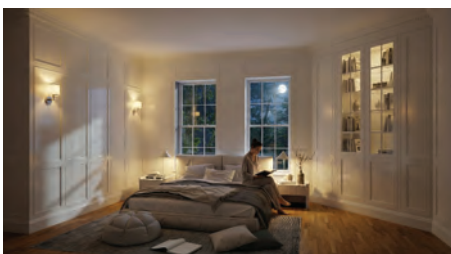
Wilson Willow FINE BRITISH KITCHENS | Plan No. 1234 | Range: Trad In-Frame | Finish: Great White | Tops: Polished White

The built in Estimate module further streamlines operations by generating quotations directly from the design. This reduces duplication of work and ensures that pricing and design remain fully synchronised.

Autokitchen also offers considerable design freedom, supporting both standard and highly bespoke projects. Its intuitive interface enables users to adopt the system quickly, supported by UK based training and one to one guidance tailored to individual business requirements.

Client presentation is enhanced through integrated visualisation tools, including interactive VR. Homeowners can explore their designs in an immersive environment and adjust up to five materials in real time, such as cabinetry, work surfaces and handles. Combined with 360 degree panoramas and virtual tours, this helps bridge the gap between concept and client understanding.

Autokitchen stands out as one of the most flexible and powerful KBB design solutions available today, giving professionals complete freedom to design without limitations while maintaining full control from concept through to manufacture.

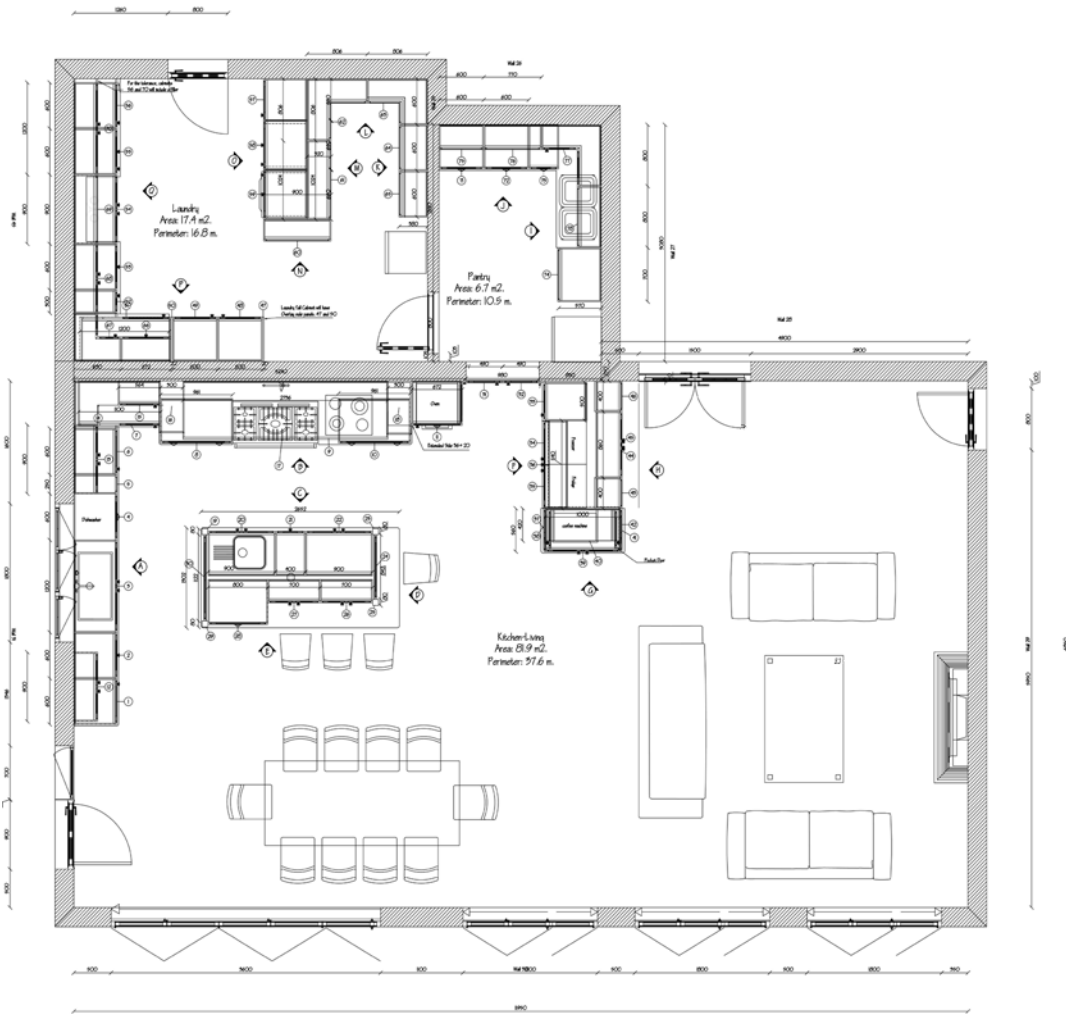


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Autokitchen connects design, presentation and manufacture in one powerful solution.



Produce clear, detailed plans for both client presentation and installation.



Catalogue Editor enables fully bespoke cabinets built around real manufacturing methods.



Automated pricing, quotations and part lists ensure every project remains accurate as designs evolve.



Create without restrictions, supported by super fast rendering and AI powered visualisation that brings designs to life instantly.

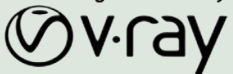


Integrated VR and real time material changes let clients fully experience their space before it is built.



Autokitchen gives professionals complete control from concept to manufacture.

Rendering Powered By



Compatible

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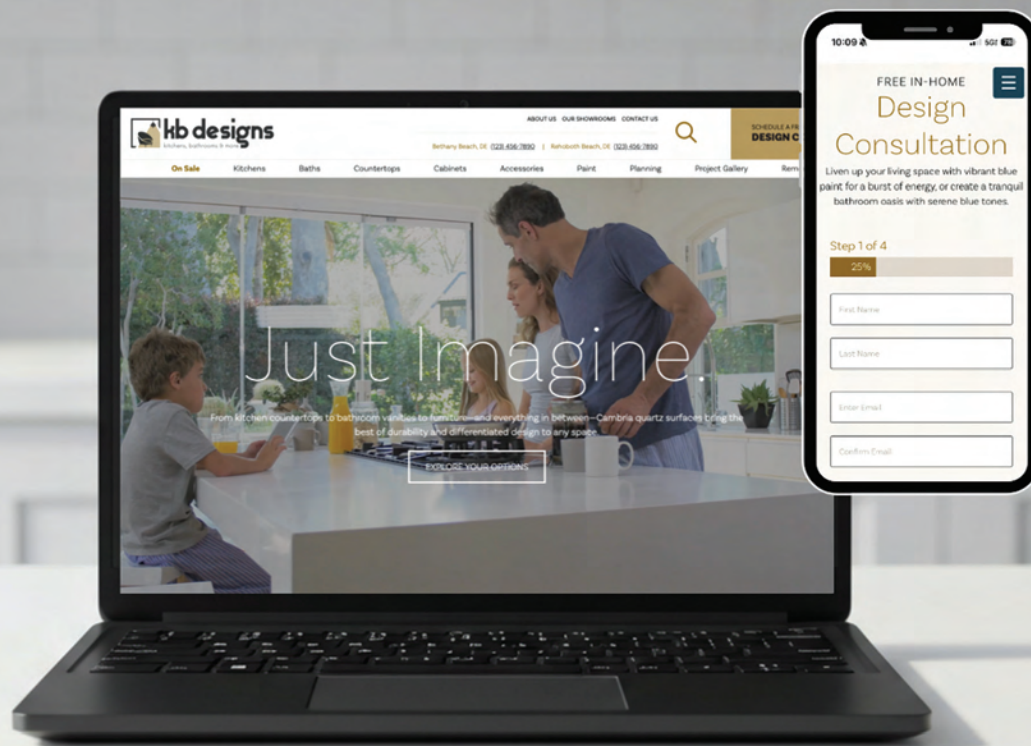


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Cyncly Websites Launch Helps Independent Retailers Win Earlier in the Customer Journey

Cyncly has introduced Cyncly Websites to the UK market, offering independent kitchen and bathroom retailers a new way to engage customers at a much earlier stage in the buying process.

The launch comes at a time when customer behaviour continues to shift. The path to purchase is no longer only driven by showroom visits. Instead, homeowners are spending considerable time researching ideas, comparing options and building a clear picture of their ideal space before ever reaching out to a retailer.

This evolution in behaviour is reshaping expectations. Today's consumers want more than a simple website with a gallery and contact details. They expect a digital experience that allows them to explore styles, refine preferences and feel actively involved in the creation of their future kitchen or bathroom.

For independent retailers, this presents a growing challenge. Many are competing against larger brands that have already invested heavily in digital tools and infrastructure, while lacking the time or expertise to keep pace.

Cyncly Websites has been developed to address this gap. With 30 years of kitchen and bathroom industry experience and Google Premier Partner status, Cyncly has built a platform that takes on the heavy lifting – so retailers do not have to become digital experts overnight.

The centrepiece is an AI inspiration tool that lets shoppers upload a photo of their existing kitchen or bathroom and receive redesign concepts built from the retailer's actual product catalogue. It is something generic platforms cannot do. Competing tools create digital engagement, but with no path to a specific local retailer or a booked design consultation.

By bringing together product browsing, AI inspiration and lead capture in one connected experience, the website becomes a working part of the sales journey rather than a static shop window.

This has clear advantages for both sides. Customers are able to move forward with greater confidence, while retailers benefit from more informed and purposeful enquiries. When a potential client makes contact, designers

already have a sense of the customer's style, preferences and intent. Conversations in the showroom become more focused, more creative and more productive.

The first impression of a retailer is increasingly formed online, well before a design consultation is booked. The website's job is not to close the sale – it is to earn that consultation.

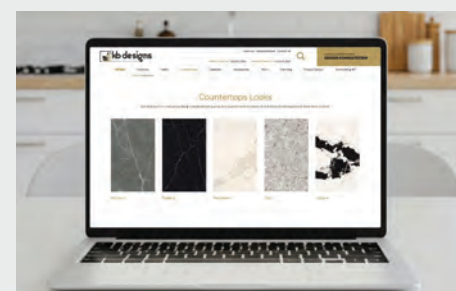
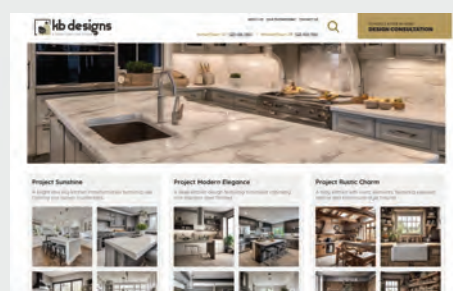
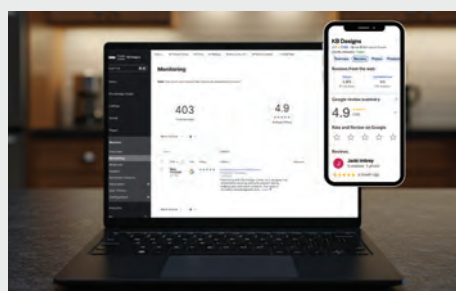
By providing an accessible way to deliver a more capable digital experience, Cyncly is offering independent retailers an effective way to compete at this early stage of the customer journey.

If you want to attract more shoppers, engage them earlier and convert more enquiries into booked consultations, book a demo and see the benefits that Cyncly's technology and expertise can deliver firsthand.



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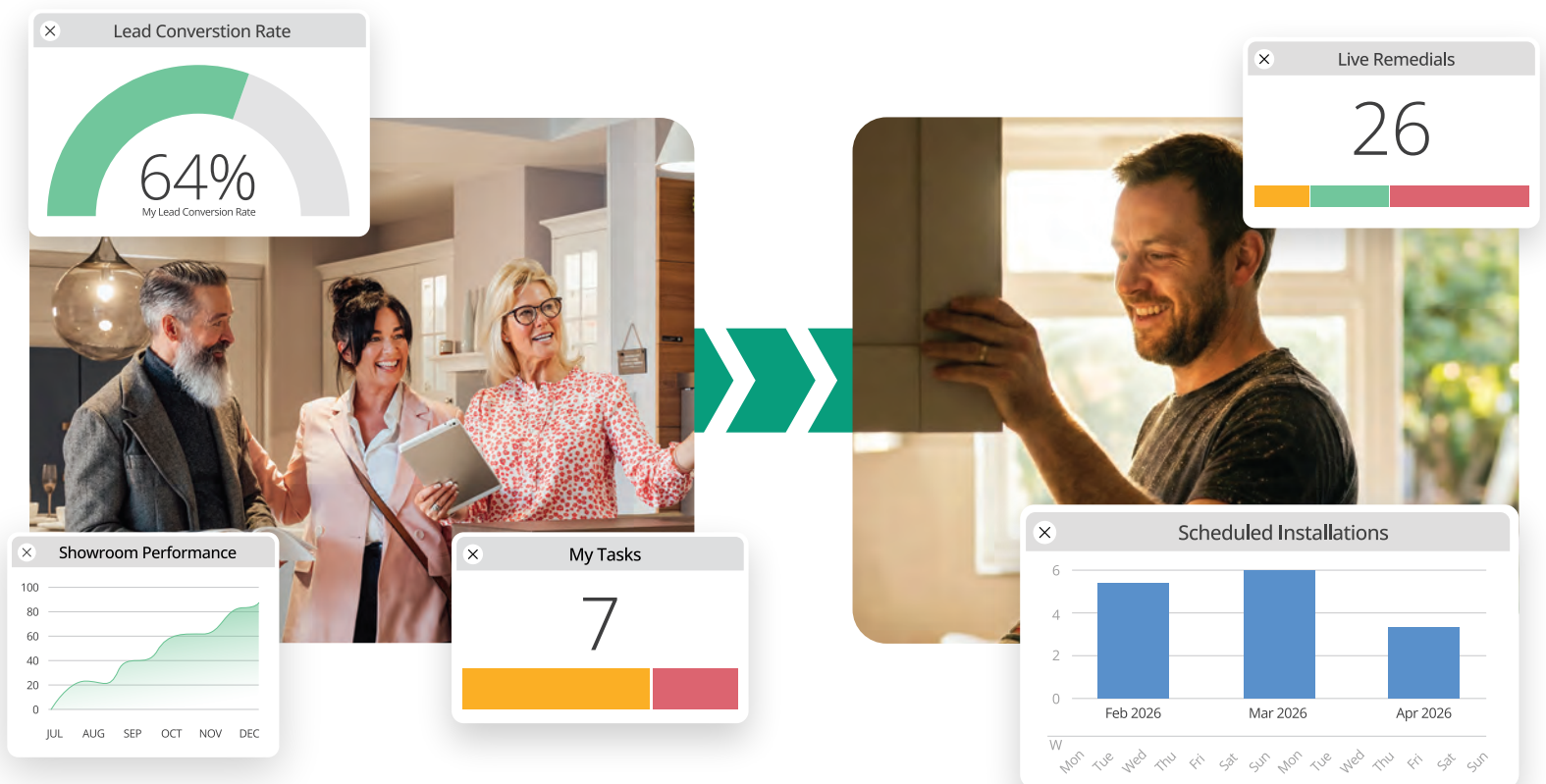
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1810/SCHOCK: Strengthening the Complete Sink Solution

Bernhard van Ommen, Managing Director of 1810/SCHOCK, speaks to BKU Editor Matt Broughton about new launches, strategic partnerships and why supporting independent retailers remains central to the company's ambitions.

The past year has been one of momentum for 1810/SCHOCK, as the combined business continues to build on its product offering and strengthen relationships across the UK kitchen sector.

"The past 12 months have been extremely positive and progressive for 1810/SCHOCK," Bernhard says. Product development has remained central to that progress, with multiple launches across 2025 and into 2026 designed to broaden the company's appeal.

Alongside new products, the business has invested in people. "We expanded our team of Regional Sales Managers, reinforcing our commitment to providing strong face-to-face support for partners across mainland UK," Bernhard explains. That investment has allowed the company to gather more direct feedback from retailers and better understand how it can support their businesses.

"By working closely with our partners, we are well-positioned to provide the products, tools and service they need to grow."

Another milestone was the brand's return to the industry's biggest stage. KBB Birmingham marked 1810/SCHOCK's first appearance at the exhibition since the acquisition of 1810 by SCHOCK in 2022. "It provided an ideal platform to showcase the strength of the combined 1810/SCHOCK offering and unveil new innovations," Bernhard says.

The show also saw the official announcement of a new collaboration with Quooker®. SCHOCK CRISTADUR® sinks are now

approved for use with Quooker boiling water taps, opening up new opportunities for premium kitchen specifications. "This gives retailers greater flexibility when specifying high-end kitchen solutions," Bernhard notes.

Design flexibility and new launches

Product development remains a major focus heading into 2026, with several launches reflecting feedback gathered from retailers and designers.

"2026 is set to be an exciting year for 1810/SCHOCK," Bernhard says. "Many of the new products we unveiled at KBB Birmingham are a direct response to what our customers and the wider industry have been asking for."

Among the highlights is the new Kaia CRISTADUR® sink range, designed with installation flexibility in mind. "The Kaia range can be installed using three different methods, including flushmount, and is available in five popular CRISTADUR® tones," he explains. "This provides designers with far greater flexibility when planning kitchen layouts."

The company is also building on the success of previous innovations. Following the launch of the HEX undermount range in 2025, a new development in the AXIX family will arrive later this year. "The new AXIX features a HEX-textured base, which demonstrates our forward-thinking approach to sink design," Bernhard says.

Elsewhere, the portfolio continues to expand with a forthcoming range of Fireclay sinks, while the tap category is also evolving. A notable addition is the 1810 Dutrarre twin-lever pull-out

tap. "It features a self-contained, self-retracting design and our QFit system for quick and easy installation," Bernhard explains.

The SCHOCK Talia tap joins the line-up with a slimmer profile and five finish options designed to coordinate with SCHOCK waste kits. Colour also remains a key part of the design story, with the introduction of the new CRISTADUR Magnolia shade alongside the increasingly popular Aged Brass finish for taps.

Built on materials and service

For Bernhard, the strength of the 1810/SCHOCK proposition lies in a combination of material quality, engineering and design variety.

"Our SCHOCK quartz composite sinks are made in Germany and offer exceptional choice in both designs and colours," he says. The CRISTADUR material in particular has built a strong reputation within the premium market. "It's known for its silky-smooth, easy-clean surface and rich, long-lasting colour palette."

Durability is another defining feature. "Its stain-resistant properties help maintain the appearance of the sink for longer, and its recent approval for use with Quooker boiling water taps further strengthens its appeal."

The 1810 stainless steel range offers a complementary proposition focused on engineering integrity. "Most of our sinks are produced from 1.2mm-thick, 304-grade stainless steel," Bernhard explains, while selected premium models feature Insusound® coating to reduce noise and help retain water heat.

Looking ahead, the company's ambitions remain closely aligned with the needs of independent kitchen retailers. "Our overarching goal is to be the most supportive and reliable partner for independent kitchen retailers," Bernhard says. "We want to provide a complete solution for sinks, taps and accessories, supported by outstanding service."

That service includes extensive stockholding and next-day delivery direct to site across mainland UK, ensuring retailers can rely on the brand when project timelines are tight.

"Exceptional service sits at the heart of our support for customers," Bernhard concludes. "By listening to feedback and working closely with our partners, we can continue refining our offering and help retailers grow their businesses."






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Clearwater Products expands British Classics range with Theocsbury apron-front ceramic sink

Clearwater Products recently launched Theocsbury at KBB 2026, a new apron-front ceramic sink designed to combine traditional styling with the practical demands of modern kitchens.

Part of Clearwater's British Classics collection, Theocsbury is a generously proportioned 1.5 bowl sink that makes a strong visual statement while delivering everyday versatility for busy households. The sink features a distinctive fine-ribbed apron front, creating a focal point that suits both classic and contemporary kitchen designs.

The double-bowl configuration is designed with practicality in mind. The large main bowl

comfortably accommodates oversized cookware and roasting trays, while the secondary bowl provides a convenient and water-efficient solution for smaller daily tasks.

Handmade in Britain by master craftsmen, Theocsbury is finished with a luxurious, durable, anti-bacterial glaze and is supplied with a lifetime warranty, offering long-term reassurance for installers and homeowners alike. A 90mm waste outlet and integrated overflow are included, while the apron-front installation makes it ideal for feature cabinetry designs.

Theocsbury is supplied without tap holes, allowing flexibility in tap selection, and is

compatible with Clearwater's Thomas Denby waste range in a variety of finishes to complement wider kitchen schemes.

With its combination of traditional character, high-quality craftsmanship and installer-friendly design, Theocsbury is well suited to premium kitchen projects where performance and aesthetics are equally important.

For more information, or to request a brochure, visit the website.

clearwater

▶ www.clearwaterproducts.co.uk



Franke Elite Slimline range of food waste disposers

As local authorities roll out plastic food waste caddies, the opportunity for retailers to sell in a food waste disposer has probably never been greater and Franke's Elite Slimline range of waste disposers offer an ideal solution, designed to be space saving and high performance, while improving kitchen hygiene.

The Elite Slimline range includes the continuous feed Slim 50, Slim 75, Slim 100 and Slim 125 models, offering four performance levels to suit different household requirements and price points.

All are designed to dispose of organic household waste quickly, easily and safely. While running water through the unit, food waste is instantly liquified into fine particles that are easily flushed through the pipework system.

Compatible with all Franke sinks that feature a 3½" waste hole, thanks to the 3-bolt mounting system, they each feature Twist Force technology for exceptional grinding power with no risk of jamming. Also included is a high-flow splash guard ensuring the grinding chamber is left clean and sound insulation to ensure quieter operation. For safety, a strong Magnetic Rim to the Slim 100 and Slim 125 models prevents cutlery and other items from being dropped into the unit.

Thanks to a permanent magnetic motor, the units reach high speeds instantly, producing more torque per kilo than other brands. All models are supported by a 10-year guarantee.



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SCHOCK and Quooker®: A coordinated kitchen solution

As demand for boiling water taps grows, the importance of specifying the right sink has never been greater. Retailers are increasingly being asked not just for a design-led solution, but for one that can confidently perform alongside 100°C water systems.

In this context, the recent approval of SCHOCK's CRISTADUR® sinks for use with Quooker® carries significant weight.

By formally approving CRISTADUR®, Quooker® is effectively endorsing it as one of the most reliable and suitable quartz composite sink options to pair with its boiling water taps.

This recognition of SCHOCK's premium sink range highlights its ability to withstand both sudden and sustained exposure to high temperatures, without compromising on performance, durability, or design integrity. It provides retailers with a clear, credible answer to one of the most common consumer queries.

Available to UK retailers from 1810/SCHOCK, the aesthetic beauty of CRISTADUR® is what catches the eye, but the boiling water tap

compatibility and extensive practical benefits are what truly set it apart in everyday use.

Managing Director at The 1810 Company/SCHOCK UK Bernhard van Ommen, said: "The approval of CRISTADUR® by Quooker® is a significant milestone, not only for SCHOCK but for the category as a whole. It clearly positions CRISTADUR® as a leading solution when specifying sinks to work alongside 100°C boiling water systems.

"For our retail partners, this provides a strong, credible recommendation they can rely on in customer conversations – removing uncertainty and supporting a more confident, joined-up approach to selling sinks and taps together.

"Ultimately, for the end consumer, it's about trust. Boiling water taps are now a staple in most kitchens, and customers want to know their sink is built to handle high temperatures with ease."

At the core of this approval is SCHOCK's advanced engineering and manufacturing expertise, which has positioned CRISTADUR® as a premium composite sink solution.

Manufactured in Germany, CRISTADUR® features a silky-smooth, non-porous surface that delivers a premium look, is easy to clean, and highly resistant to limescale. It also offers excellent resistance to stains, impacts, and fading, making it a durable and reliable choice for use with any boiling water taps.

Kitchen design is about more than function – it's about style too. That's why CRISTADUR® waste kits are offered in finishes that align with Quooker® taps, making it simple to create a coordinated, contemporary space.

To find out more about the collaboration with Quooker®, and how independent retailers can benefit further or about our current collaborative promotional opportunities, please contact sales@the1810company.co.uk or contact your 1810/SCHOCK Regional Sales Manager.

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Stephen Johnson



Quooker: one tap at a time

At KBB, BKU's Matt Broughton spoke with Quooker UK's Managing Director, Stephen Johnson, about all things hot, cold, boiling and beyond!

Matt: What's the key message that you're hoping people walk away from KBB thinking about Quooker?

Stephen: For us, it's about people understanding that we're the heritage brand; we invented the category and launched Quooker UK in Ireland in 2007. Fast forward to today and we are the most searched brand in the category. The term "boiling water tap" is searched 14,000 times a month... Quooker is searched 28,000 times a month. So, for me, we've made it the category name.

Matt: Do you relish the competition you now have? Does it push you forward, or do you think you're well ahead of the game anyway?

Stephen: Oh, no; for me, it's one tap at a time. Competition keeps you on your toes. For me, it's a huge privilege to see the brand where it is; as a company, we've invested millions to get it there. It's a strange category because not all competitors are equal. I'll give you an example. If you go and

buy a freezer on any of these stands, all the freezers are going to freeze. If I try to sell you a freezer that didn't freeze, you tell me I was mad. What we have here is a category where there are true boiling water taps and taps that don't quite boil. So, for us, the job is educating people about the difference and the importance.

Matt: What do you do as far as innovating further - where can you see this developing?

Stephen: We are constantly innovating. There are two huge points of focus. One is under the sink base. In terms of the tank, we hold the patent for vacuum insulation. We're proud that our founder invented this category and patented a tank that enables us to store water above 100°C, but in the most energy-efficient way in the market. We're always trying to be more energy-efficient, so there's constant development in efficiency. Also, speed of installation - we're always looking to make it easier for people to install. We also

now have a kitchen boiler that's A-rated energy - the only one in the world - which does your hot water, your cold water and your boiling water - it's called a combi. So, under the worktop we're constantly innovating to give more efficiency and better use. Above the worktop it's about ease of use, so ergonomics and design. We have a very popular round flex, and now we've launched a square one. And then we're constantly looking at how do we make it easier to use? How can we make it safer? So, although the proposition of boiling water will remain the same, we're constantly innovating to make it better.

Matt: What's the biggest point of consumer resistance?

Stephen: There's a misunderstanding of the product. Customers that don't come into the market think it's inefficient, that it's boiling all the time and that it's not safe. They think they don't need it, or they think it's just for tea and coffee.

We've just finished a huge consumer research piece. We've got over 800,000 customers in the UK and Ireland. We researched 100,000 of those customers and the standout facts from that were that 100% of the customers asked said that if they moved or redid the kitchen, they'd never be without a Quooker. The other interesting aspects were that they never thought they would use it as much as they did before they bought it. They thought it was for tea and coffee, but when they get it, it becomes the most used appliance. So, we regularly do a brand tracker and regularly research the market. The barriers to market are price, that they don't think they need it, and that it's not safe. But once you get one, you start to understand that those things are all not true. So, we are trying to persuade customers through marketing on those points.

Matt: We were last here two years ago; what have been the key changes or developments in that time, and where do you expect to be the next two years of focus to be?

Stephen: I think as a category, it's growing. I'm really privileged and fortunate that, despite the





struggles in the kitchen market, the boiling water tap market is growing. People are getting rid of kettles and replacing them with Quookers. So, for us, it's about increasing sales volume, increasing our penetration into dealers, and trying to get people to understand the difference between true boiling and not. That's where our focus is.

“ For me, it's one tap at a time ”

Matt: Is it a product that's easy to upgrade for people who were early adopters that might want to profit from that constant innovation you mentioned?

Stephen: Quooker is unique in its category in that it's like a LEGO set. Fundamentally, you're always going to start with hot, cold and boiling. So, if you come to Quooker, every single tap in my range is doing hot, cold and boiling - that is our heritage; that's what we sell. Beyond that, we then offer ambient, cold filtered water, chilled and sparkling water... but those are add-ons. I'd never speak ill of our competition, but some of our competitors have taps where you have to have hot, cold, boiling, chilled and sparkling. Quooker's belief is that everybody in the world should have access to boiling water on demand, and then allow them to add on cold, ambient and chilled if you want - so the range is progressive; you can add on.

When I started, it was always a standalone tap, so it was always a tap you placed alongside a mixer. It's all now moved to an all-in-one tap, so we have an upgrade package for our existing

customers. We've got 300,000 existing customers on old taps that are upgrading to new taps all the time. We don't want redundancy in the product; once you've bought a Quooker we want you to have it for the rest of your life.

Everything we do at Quooker, we do ourselves. We manufacture and make it, we market it, and in the UK have 130 field-based engineers that service, repair and look after these. For us service is a key fundamental as well.





Caple: Refining the Complete Kitchen

Luke Shipway, Head of Product at Caple, speaks to BKU Editor Matt Broughton about steady expansion, intelligent technology and why cohesion across the kitchen matters more than ever.

For Caple, the past year was less about headline-grabbing disruption and more about strengthening the overall proposition. A notable step was the move further into integrated kitchen solutions.

"The most significant milestone was the introduction of a comprehensive built-in bin range," Luke explains. "It expands our offering beyond core appliances and into smarter kitchen and accessory solutions."

The launch reflected a growing expectation that waste management should feel as considered as the rest of the kitchen. "Customers are looking for practical, design-led solutions that integrate seamlessly into modern cabinetry," he says.

Elsewhere, the business focused on evolving its core categories. Rather than reinventing, the emphasis was on refinement and reliability. "We continued refining our core appliance and sink and tap ranges," Luke notes, "strengthening relationships with retailers and reinforcing Caple's position as a brand that combines functionality, aesthetics and reliability."

This steady approach feeds directly into the direction of travel for the year ahead. Brand visibility will step up significantly, but the broader objective goes beyond marketing. "We are launching our first TV advertising campaign to showcase our extensive range and help cement Caple's position in the market," Luke says.

Behind that campaign sits a clear product philosophy. "The goal driving the company this

year is to deliver smarter, cohesive kitchen solutions that genuinely improve everyday living," he explains. "We are refining how our products work together functionally, visually and technologically."

For Caple, cohesion is critical. Customers may mix and match categories, but the experience must remain consistent. "We want customers to be able to choose from an exceptional range of products whilst still receiving the same Caple experience."

Practicality, but elevated

When it comes to design direction, today's consumer is balancing simplicity with substance. Luke points to a strong shift towards ease of use and understated aesthetics.

"We're seeing customers place increasing importance on practicality, paired with clean, understated design," he says. Products that remove friction from everyday routines are gaining traction, whether through intuitive controls or easier maintenance.

Integrated solutions continue to rise up the priority list. "Integrated waste management, flexible storage and appliances that blend seamlessly into cabinetry are all key trends," Luke explains.

Environmental awareness is also influencing purchasing decisions more consistently than in previous years. "Sustainability is becoming a baseline expectation rather than a differentiator,"

he adds. "Customers are asking more questions about materials, longevity and energy efficiency."

The response in early 2026 centres on building depth rather than breadth. "Our focus is on highlighting and promoting the comprehensive product range that we are already offering, alongside complementary kitchen solutions that enhance organisation and usability," Luke says.

There is no appetite for change for change's sake. "Our 2026 approach is about thoughtful enhancements that add genuine value for customers and kitchen designers alike."

Innovation with intent

Technology plays a central role in delivering those enhancements, but always with restraint. "Technology at Caple is about subtle intelligence, not unnecessary complexity," Luke states.

The improvements being made are often invisible at first glance. "Our developments are centred on making products more intuitive, reliable and efficient," he says, citing clearer control interfaces, improved energy performance and quieter operation.

"We're not chasing technology for novelty's sake. We are focused on meaningful innovation that improves everyday performance and longevity."

That long-term view also underpins Caple's environmental strategy. "We are working to improve energy efficiency, extend product lifespans and reduce waste through better design and material choices," Luke explains. Durable components and timeless aesthetics are prioritised to avoid premature replacement.

Operationally, tangible steps are being taken as well. "We have installed solar panels at our Bristol warehouse, helping to reduce our reliance on grid electricity and lower our overall environmental footprint," he says. "Our approach to sustainability is practical and long-term."

Looking further ahead, the company's trajectory remains deliberate. Expansion will continue, but selectively. "We will keep expanding our range in a considered way, filling genuine gaps in the market rather than overextending," Luke concludes.

Consistency, cohesion and incremental improvement may not shout the loudest, but for Caple, they define a strategy built to last.



Pictured is Caple's DD782BK - 78cm induction hob with downdraft extractor



More Space, Less Waste – Miele’s New XXL Fridge-Freezer Keeps Food Fresher for Longer

In April 2026, premium appliance brand, Miele is launching a new XXL fridge-freezer model in the UK. First unveiled at IFA, the KFN 7934 D model offers around 45% more storage space than comparable standard-sized models, ideal for households with greater storage needs, including multi-generational homes. What’s more, it features Miele’s innovative DailyFresh system to help households keep ingredients fresher for longer and cut down on food waste.

Compared to the standard niche size of 60 cm wide and 178 cm high, Miele’s new XXL model will provide an extra 15 cm in width and 16 cm in height - standing at 194 cm high and 75 cm wide. This translates to approximately 100 litres of additional usable volume in the fridge and 22 litres in the freezer. An extra glass shelf and an additional inner door shelf create even more structured storage options, helping users to keep food neatly organised and easily visible.

Miele’s KFN 7934 D features Miele’s DailyFresh system, which keeps fruit and vegetables fresh for up to twice as long as conventional vegetable drawers. The spacious DailyFresh ExtraCool drawer provides optimal storage for perishable

items such as meat, fish, and dairy. With this clever combination of generous capacity and innovative freshness technology, households can save time, money, and resources.

“The new XXL built-in appliance not only brings more storage space to the kitchen, but also more convenience to everyday life,” emphasises Holger Keisinger, Senior Vice President of the Refrigeration Business Unit at Miele. “The generous amount of space and optimised organisation make it particularly attractive for large households and all those who do not want to compromise on freshness.”

Additional features include bright LED lighting to ensure clear visibility throughout the interior, and Miele@home connectivity for effortless control via the Miele mobile app. Thanks to NoFrost technology, regular defrosting is easier than ever. The KFN 7934 D model also includes additional lighting and Miele’s popular SoftClose feature for gentle, quiet door closure.

For further information please visit the website.



► www.miele.co.uk





City Plumbing joins the Bathroom Association in a landmark partnership

As the first major national merchant to become a member of the Bathroom Association, City Plumbing's decision marks a powerful endorsement of the Association's broadened vision to unite the whole bathroom supply chain, from manufacturers and merchants to retailers, designers, and installers.

Daphne Doody-Green, Chief Executive of the Association, commented: "City Plumbing's decision to join the Association is hugely symbolic. It's a signal that our new, more inclusive direction is not just timely, it's necessary. This partnership is proof that by collaborating across the whole supply chain, we can tackle shared challenges, accelerate innovation, and make bathrooms better, for people and for the planet."

City Plumbing, part of the Highbourne Group, employs over 3,000 colleagues and operates nine businesses across the trade, home improvement, and DIY markets. Known for providing expert advice and a comprehensive range of plumbing, heating and bathroom products, the business is a cornerstone of the UK's bathroom retail ecosystem.

With most of its branches housing state-of-the-art bathroom showrooms, City Plumbing plays a pivotal role in shaping consumer choice and supporting trade professionals with product selection, design expertise, and fast access to essential stock.

Steve Smith, Managing Director - Bathroom at City Plumbing, said: "We're proud to be the first merchant partner to join the Bathroom Association. Their direction aligns with our values of being customer-first and creating the future. By adding our voice to this influential community, we're committing to a shared goal: creating a better, more connected bathroom industry where innovation thrives, and challenges are solved collectively."

This partnership demonstrates what's possible when businesses across the spectrum come together with a shared purpose: to make bathrooms better for everyone.



07795 972504

www.bathroom-association.org.uk

Reginox UK announces Deborah Newbould as new Area Sales Manager for the north

Kitchen sinks and taps specialist, Reginox UK has announced Deborah Newbould as its new Areas Sales Manager for the north – one of the Cheshire-based business' key territories.

Deborah has spent 15 years working across multiple areas of the KBB and housebuilding sectors, developing strong industry relationships with kitchen retailers and other retail clients, architects, interior designers, and housebuilders and developers ranging from small local builders to large national companies.

She replaces Rebekah Tomkinson, who has left Reginox after 12 years to pursue a long-held ambition to work in education.

Based in the Netherlands with a UK headquarters in Congleton, Reginox is acclaimed for the style and innovation of its wide-ranging array of stainless steel, composite and ceramic sinks, as well as conventional, filtered and boiling water taps.

Deborah says she was drawn to Reginox because of its strong reputation within the industry: "Having worked in the sector for so long, you quickly learn which brands have the best reputation – whether it's sinks, taps, flooring or appliances. Reginox is a name you hear consistently in a positive way, which really stood out to me.

"My priority is now getting out to introduce myself to both existing and new customers, to build and strengthen relationships. At the same time, I'm reaching out to contacts I've worked with previously to explore new business opportunities with them."

Dave Mayer, Reginox UK Commercial Director, says: "We're delighted to welcome Deborah to the team. We think she'll be a real asset, especially with her experience and knowledge of our sectors and her strong relationship and business development skills."

Away from work, Wakefield-based Deborah is a netball enthusiast and plays for two teams in the Yorkshire league. She also enjoys horse riding and has a long-standing passion for interior design.

"In many ways, my interest in interior design is what led me into this industry in the first place," she says. "I love helping customers choose the right sinks, taps and finishes for their spaces. Matching colours and advising on projects is something I genuinely enjoy, and I think I've developed a good eye for it over the years."



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BRITISH FURNITURE ASSOCIATION



BFA – Furniture Component Expo 2026: Bigger, Busier and Brimming with Innovation

With an 11 per cent rise in visitor numbers, the British Furniture Association's recent Furniture Component Expo stood out as the go-to show for the UK's furniture manufacturing supply chain, including the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom sector.

More than 80 exhibitors were showcasing innovations, new products and live demonstrations at Telford's International Centre on 11th and 12th March.

The 2026 expo built on the momentum of a successful debut in 2024, with exhibitors, buyers, designers, and manufacturers coming from across the UK and beyond to explore the latest trends in components, materials, and technology.

Innovation Trail shines a spotlight

For the first time in 2026, the FCE included an Innovation Trail, proudly sponsored by Blum, which proved a key highlight of the event.

The trail featured 10 exhibitors, each one presenting a product or concept pushing the boundaries of furniture component design and making its debut at FCE.

Judges spent time with each company, exploring the thinking behind their innovations and the potential impact on the wider market.

Highly Commended accolades were presented to Mobus Fabrics, for its continued advancement in fabric performance and aesthetics, and Cirtex UK (Re-bom, The Sustainable Manufacturer) for its outstanding work transforming waste textiles into valuable new resources.

The overall Innovation Trail Winner was Comfortex, for its Softcure Cushion, a beautifully engineered piece combining comfort, durability and sustainability.

The product impressed judges with both its technical sophistication and its relevance to the evolving needs of furniture manufacturers seeking more sustainable yet high-performance components.

A platform for progress

The steady rise in attendance reflected a broader confidence in the UK furniture manufacturing sector, with supply chain resilience, sustainability, and technological innovation all central talking points.

New materials, digitised production workflows, and environmentally conscious designs were among the dominant themes, mirroring the shifts shaping the global furniture market.

Organisers and exhibitors alike are already looking forward to 2027. This year's growth in visitor numbers, expanded floorplan, and greatly enhanced Innovation Trail demonstrate that FCE has matured into an essential event on the furniture industry calendar.

▶ 01295 724202 ▶ info@bfa.org.uk2 ▶ www.bfa.org.uk

WORKTOP FABRICATORS FEDERATION

Industry insight and innovation take centre stage at WFF event

A full day of industry insight, product innovation and collaborative discussion unfolded at a recent Worktop Fabricators Federation (WFF) event hosted by LPE Group and The Surface Collection.

Product innovation

Proceedings officially opened with Nigel Fletcher of WFF delivering a welcome address, outlining the objectives for the day and highlighting key themes around quality, innovation and market growth.

Shortly afterwards, Vince and Pierino Giovannini of Big Dog Adhesives introduced their new system, accompanied by a detailed and informative session on MMA adhesives. Their presentation offered practical insights into application benefits and performance, drawing strong interest from attendees keen to explore advanced bonding solutions.

Product development

Next up, Daniel Down and Carl Sharkey of LPE Group presented a video showcase on Quartz Renew, providing an overview of the product's development and its positioning within the market.

Emphasis on standards and profitability

After a break the programme resumed with the main focus for the day – a joint presentation from Kevin Bampton of British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) and Nigel of WFF, who introduced the new WFF Quality Mark scheme. The session outlined the framework and benefits of the initiative, followed by an interactive Q&A that encouraged engagement and clarification from the audience.



Attention then turned to commercial strategy with a presentation from Vadara exploring the advantages of specifying high-quality brands. Their discussion focused on how premium product selection can directly influence profit margins, reinforcing the value of quality-led decision-making.

Practical demonstration and market insights

The afternoon sessions shifted toward hands-on engagement, beginning with Carl Sharkey and Dean Bell delivering a live demonstration and update on Raptor. The session concluded with a workshop element, allowing participants to pose their own questions.

Following this, Ross Williamson of Atlas Plan delivered a comprehensive presentation on current market trends. His session examined evolving customer demands and offered strategies for maximising sales opportunities in a competitive landscape.

Closing the day

Overall, the event successfully combined technical knowledge, product innovation and commercial insight, reinforcing the importance of collaboration and continuous development within the industry.



▶ 07591 339 144 ▶ office@worktopfabricators.org ▶ www.worktopfabricators.org



THE KBSA COLUMN



KBSA announces the date for KBB Industry

The Kitchen Bathroom Bedroom Specialists Association (KBSA) has confirmed that its next annual conference will take place on Thursday, 13th May 2027 at The Belfry, while a programme of regional events will be introduced throughout 2026 to bring the association closer to its members.

Following a review of the industry calendar, the KBSA Board has made the strategic decision to move its flagship conference from its traditional autumn slot to May going forward. The change reflects the increasingly busy autumn period, when new product launches, international trade exhibitions in Germany and the run-up to the Christmas trading season compete for retailers' time and attention.

KBSA Chair Richard Hibbert explains: "The decision reflects a clear-eyed look at the industry calendar. The autumn period has become extremely congested, with major product launches, key international exhibitions and the critical run-up to Christmas all placing pressure on retailers' schedules. Factoring in holiday periods and the wider demands on businesses at that time, the Board concluded that a spring date offers a stronger commercial opportunity."

Rather than stepping back from events in the intervening period, the KBSA will use 2026 to introduce a series of networking events and regional meetings for its retailer members.

These events are designed to create more accessible opportunities for members to connect locally, strengthen peer networks and discuss the specific challenges facing retailers in different parts of the country. The approach will allow for more regular engagement throughout this year.

Dates and venues for the 2026 regional events are currently being finalised and will be announced soon.

► More details are available from The KBSA www.kbsa.org.uk or call 01623 818808



MERLYN Announces New Export Sales Manager



Shower enclosure specialist MERLYN has appointed Stéphane Ferry as its new export sales manager as the company continues to strengthen its growth strategy.

Stéphane brings more than 20 years' experience in sales and business development, with a strong track record in driving revenue growth, securing high-value contracts and expanding national and international accounts across the UK and Europe. A French citizen who has lived in several countries throughout his life, Stéphane has been settled in Manchester for a number of years and brings a strong international perspective to the role.

In his new role at MERLYN, Stéphane will focus on developing export opportunities, strengthening relationships with retail partners and supporting the brand's continued expansion across key markets.

"I'm delighted to be joining MERLYN at such an exciting time for the business. The brand has built a strong reputation for quality and innovation, and I'm looking forward to working with our retail partners to further develop export opportunities and support continued growth across key markets."

► www.merlynshowering.com





PJH Celebrates CIPD Apprenticeship Success



PJH is pleased to celebrate the achievements of two colleagues from its Learning & Development team, Lauren Fergus and Justyna Prasek, who have each successfully completed their CIPD apprenticeships.

Their commitment to developing skills embodies the culture of continuous learning PJH is building across the business, and their success reflects the positive impact that professional growth can have on both individual confidence and the wider organisation.

Lauren (Pictured Right) has completed her Level 3 Learning & Development Practitioner Apprenticeship, gaining a strong understanding of how people learn and how to design training that genuinely supports different needs. As she explains, "Completing my Level 3 Apprenticeship in Learning & Development has been a really rewarding experience. The apprenticeship journey has given me a deeper understanding of how people learn, what motivates them, and how to design and deliver training that makes a real impact."

Justyna (Pictured Left) has completed her Level 5 CIPD Learning & Development Business Partner Apprenticeship, further building her skills in both learning design and delivery. She has developed her confidence in coaching, working with stakeholders, and supporting management development, while continuing to align Learning & Development with the needs of the business.

Commenting on her achievement she said: "Completing my apprenticeship has been one of the most valuable development opportunities in my career. The programme has strengthened both my strategic understanding of Learning & Development and my practical ability to deliver impact across the business."

Dawn Kennedy, PJH's Learning & Development Manager, commented: "We are proud of both colleagues for their hard work and dedication to their professional development. Their success is a welcome reminder of the value of investing in people and the positive impact that learning has on the strength and capability of PJH as a whole."

With more PJH colleagues taking responsibility for their development and exploring new training resources, these achievements underline the growth in Learning & Development engagement across PJH.

For further information on PJH, call or visit the website.

▶ 0345 450 8932

▶ www.pjh.uk / ▶ www.partners.pjh.uk

THE IPG Supporting Independents



The IPG – Steady Demand, Squeezed Margins: How Independent Merchants are Supporting The Trades Biggest Challenge in 2026

Plumbing and bathroom installers are moving through 2026 with workloads holding steady, but under increasing financial pressure from tighter margins and more cautious customers.

TradeBrain's Q4 2025 Pulse survey of 2,080 tradespeople highlights that while demand remains resilient and typical day rates sit between £150 and £249, rising material and tool costs are affecting 63% of the trade, restricting real income growth. Notably, almost one in three installers now report uncertainty over what their next job will actually be worth, reinforcing that the key challenge is no longer securing work, but ensuring its profitability.

Against this backdrop, bathroom and plumbing work is becoming more closely tied to the "small jobs economy." February 2026's Monthly Insight, based on 254 tradespeople, shows that small repairs and callouts account for the largest share of work at 31.1%. When combined with routine maintenance and refurbishment or renovation projects, these smaller-scale jobs make up nearly 40% of all activity. For many plumbers and bathroom installers, this means a shift away from large, high-value projects towards a steady flow of fixes, replacements and incremental upgrades.

For independent plumbers' merchants and bathroom showrooms, this evolving landscape presents both challenges and opportunities. Installers carrying out more frequent, smaller jobs rely heavily on merchants for quick access to products, dependable availability and knowledgeable support. Being part of a buying group such as The IPG enhances this position, providing stronger purchasing power, access to trusted suppliers and the backing needed to remain competitive.

At The IPG, we know that success in this environment will depend on supporting our members with well-stocked ranges of competitively priced products, to help their customers maximise value on every job. We are as committed as ever to ensuring our members can protect margins, strengthen customer loyalty and drive consistent repeat business - leveraging the scale and support that being part of a buying group provides to merchants and showrooms alike.

Nike Lovell,
Marketing Director, The IPG.



▶ www.the-ipg.co.uk



THE TILE ASSOCIATION COLUMN



Meet the Gold Sponsors of TTA Awards 2026

The Tile Association is delighted to introduce nine Gold sponsors so far signed up for TTA Awards 2026. These are: Banks & Lloyd, BIHUI, Genesis Global Systems, Jackboard®, Mapei, Palace Chemicals, PCS, Shackerley (Holdings) Group, and UltraTile.

TTA is very grateful to all those who are showing their support for the Awards, supporting its vision of 'Tiling the Future'. These brands benefit from consistent marketing exposure between now and the Awards night on 5th June at Hilton Birmingham Metropole.

This exciting evening combining entertainment, networking opportunities and recognition of achievement will be hosted by professional actor and comedian Bobby Davro. The gala is followed by an Afterparty with a subsidised bar and DJ, sponsored by Progress Profiles. To secure your tickets for TTA Awards 2026, please visit: www.tiles.org.uk/tta-awards/

Sponsors have once again described how they are 'overjoyed', 'thrilled', 'humbled', 'delighted' and 'proud' to sponsor this fantastic event, aligning their brands with the values of excellence and innovation driving the tiling sector forward and positioning themselves in service to the industry's talent.

Gold sponsorship includes a VIP table of 10 seats, the chance to present an award, your logo displayed during the ceremony, PR in the run-up to the Awards, online marketing across web and social media, acknowledgement of sponsorship in all promotional material, and Awards banner adverts on TTA's website in the lead-up to the event.

Don't miss out on the last few Gold sponsorship places remaining! To take advantage of this high-profile sponsorship opportunity, please contact awards@tile.org.uk. Remember that the earlier you sign up, the more you will benefit from the extensive promotional activities that TTA is carrying out for the 2026 event.

Also on 5th June at Hilton Birmingham Metropole, professionals across the tiling industry will gather from 11am to 4pm for ExpoTile®, sponsored by NoMorePly Boarding Systems, showcasing the latest innovations in tiles and tile accessories.

ExpoTile is a fantastic opportunity for visitors to connect with premium tiling sector brands, gaining inspiration from new trends, solutions and tips. With many exhibitors running exclusive show-only promotions, visitors also benefit from a range of discounts, prizes and giveaways. Register your attendance for free at: www.tiles.org.uk/expotile

► For further information or to join TTA visit www.tiles.org.uk/join



Benchmarkx to increase efficiency with new design software

A leading UK kitchen supplier is updating its design software to increase the speed and level of service it can provide to its customers.

Benchmarkx Kitchens & Joinery, which is part of the Travis Perkins Group, has invested in new design software to vastly improve the pace at which its team members can produce kitchen designs, with the new drawings also far superior in quality.

The new software, ArtiCAD, will significantly boost Benchmarkx's operation, with it now being possible to plan and render a kitchen design in under 10 minutes, with the CGI designs giving customers state-of-the-art, realistic visuals.

The software will make it quicker to go from design to the final price, which will benefit both colleagues and customers.

The rollout of the ArtiCAD software has been three years in the planning and almost 300 team members across the country will have undertaken extensive training to use the tool by the time it reaches all branches by June.



ArtiCAD is also delivering in-person pop-up hubs to support Benchmarkx colleagues nationwide to ensure a faultless transition from the previous software.

Rosie Wise, Benchmarkx Kitchens & Joinery Managing Director, said: "We are thrilled to now be using ArtiCAD for our kitchen designs.

"The rollout is currently under way and it is having a huge impact on our ability to service our customers more effectively in the branches already using it.

"The new software is user-friendly, and with our kitchen designers now able to plan and render kitchens so much quicker, both our homeowner and trade customers will see the benefits.

"With greater quality CGI designs, ArtiCAD is going to produce more visually engaging kitchen drawings, giving customers a more realistic view of the final product.

"With this exciting change to the way we operate, we have received a lot of support from ArtiCAD's training team - as well as our own - to ensure all our designers and managers are comfortable with the software."

Benchmarkx has more than 130 branches nationwide, supplying kitchens and joinery for trade professionals and their customers.



► www.benchmarkxkitchens.co.uk

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*'Testimonial from Heidi Smith – Group Marketing Manager at Decorative Panels
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Hello and welcome to the annual BKU Bathroom Supplement. As you might imagine from such a publication, we're shining a bright light on some of the even brighter companies that define our sector. I could name-drop the likes of Ambiance Bain, Schuler, PJH and Kudos, but then I'd be rendering the entirety adequate contents page defunct, and no one wants that (although 'defunct' is a fun word that I urge you to use more in your day to day lives). Anyway, I appear to have written some words, and now it's time for you to turn the page and read some other ones (don't worry - there are lots of pretty pictures involved too. You'll manage; I have faith).

Enjoy!

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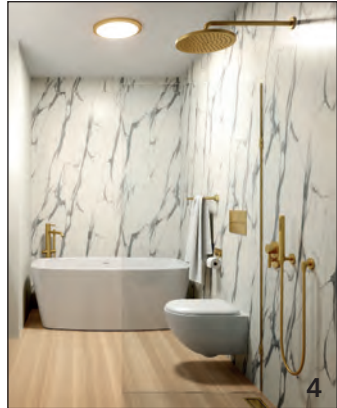
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Wetwall – Reimagine bathroom walls with panels

Historically, tiling has been the go-to choice for bathroom walls. However, bathroom panels are becoming a staple of the modern home. Combining beautiful decors with an installation process that's simple and fast, it's easy to understand why. Tiling can often introduce additional factors into projects, from finding skilled trades to increased time on site.

With bathroom wall panels, you can eliminate that potential headache.

Faster installation, fewer delays

Time is money, and when everyone is being squeezed you need to find new ways to make projects as efficient as possible. Tiling is inherently labour-intensive, requiring multiple stages, specialist skills, and drying time between processes. In contrast, wall panels offer a far more streamlined approach.

With no grout, no curing time and fewer installation steps, panels can be fitted significantly faster. This means quicker turnaround times on projects, without compromising on the finished quality.

Consistency is key

Bad tiling can really pull the quality of the finished bathroom down. Whether it's a minor misalignment or messy grout, correcting these errors can take away profit and time on the job.

Large format wall panels can provide a level of design consistency that's hard to mimic. The easy, grout-free installation reduces the margin for error. What's more, there's the option for a completely trim-free finish with the Elite Collection that creates a seamless finish that so many Wetwall customers love.

A lifetime of maintenance-free bathrooms

Without the need for grout, wall panels can ease the pain of cleaning and maintenance. No matter what colour-matched grout is chosen, inevitably discolouration and mould can accumulate, resulting in an unsightly look.

Panel systems eliminate grout entirely, creating a smooth, easy-to-clean surface that maintains its appearance for longer.

This, combined with fully waterproof surfaces and secure jointing methods, ensures panels are protected from water ingress and the issues that

can follow. Additionally, when installed using Wilsonart Complete Sealant and Adhesive, you benefit from a lifetime guarantee for long-term peace of mind.

Design without compromise

Going back to basics, a fundamental reason to choose wall panels is for the décor. Where tiles struggle to create large format patterns, wall panels excel. With ranges featuring on-trend solid colours, patterns, and tile-effect, customers can find the design that perfectly complements their vision.

And with a variety of décors to create the look of natural materials such as marble, stone and wood with impressive realism, there's no bathroom look that can't be achieved.

If you're looking to offer your customers the perfect combination of performance and aesthetics, switch to Wetwall panels and discover the modern alternative to tiles.

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“The *modern*, more *stylish alternative* to bathroom tiles.”

Pictured: Marmo Linea, Elite Collection



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Schlüter-Systems vast product range works seamlessly together to create a complete system

When it comes to achieving long-lasting, high-performance tile and stone installations, Schlüter-Systems is the go-to brand. Founded in Germany in 1966, Schlüter has become a global leader in integrated solutions for tile and stone environments, offering over 10,000 products, designed to work seamlessly together to ensure durability, functionality and design excellence across floors, walls and shower areas.

It's common knowledge that great tile work isn't just about the surface material – it's about the supporting systems beneath it. From waterproofing to drainage, uncoupling to underfloor heating, every product is German engineered to solve real challenges faced by installers and end users.

One of Schlüter's most recognised innovations is its DITRA uncoupling membrane, engineered to provide uncoupling, vapour pressure equalisation and waterproofing beneath tiled finishes. By separating the tile covering from the substrate, DITRA effectively neutralises stresses caused by differential movement, helping to prevent cracking and ensure long-term performance.

Building on this proven technology, DITRA-HEAT combines the same uncoupling and waterproofing benefits with the added advantage of integrated electric surface heating. The membrane's studded design securely accommodates heating cables, allowing installers to deliver comfortable, evenly distributed warmth without compromising on tile protection.



Schlüter-DITRA Peel & Stick is simple, clean, quick

To further enhance installation efficiency, both systems are available in Peel & Stick variants. Featuring a pressure sensitive adhesive backing, these options eliminate the need for a separate layer of tile adhesive beneath the membrane, reducing installation time, minimising mess and helping to lower overall project costs while maintaining the integrity of the full Schlüter system.

Complementing this is the KERDI waterproofing range. The sheet-applied waterproofing membrane and accessories create bonded assemblies that protect structures from water damage, crucial for showers, bathrooms and wet areas. Integrated with this system are drainage solutions like KERDI-LINE, a linear shower drain that works perfectly with bonded waterproofing to enable level access, elegant showers.

Schlüter-Systems also extends far beyond membranes and drains. Their profiles range provides functional and aesthetic finishes for wall and floor transitions, movement joints and edge protection in tile installations.



Schlüter-Systems KERDI-LINE-G3 linear drain in matte black

Innovative design is also a hallmark of the brand. Decorative finishes such as TRENDLINE, add contemporary textured colour to profiles and channels, while products like KERDI-BOARD-IN niches and SHELF add practical, waterproof storage for bathrooms and kitchens.

What sets Schlüter-Systems apart is not just the vast range of their portfolio, but the cohesion of a system approach – every component is designed to work together seamlessly, backed by true technical support and quality manufacturing. For installers and specifiers, this means confidence in performance and longevity, whether working on a simple bathroom refurbishment or a commercial project.



▶ www.schluter.co.uk



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Ambiance Bain Connex Range: Designed Around You

Bathrooms are increasingly expected to deliver both style and practicality, making considered design and intelligent storage more important than ever. A well-planned space not only improves functionality but enhances the overall user experience.

Connex by Ambiance Bain has been developed as a flexible, linked-modular furniture system that adapts to a wide range of bathroom layouts. Designed to maximise space, the collection allows for multiple configurations, from clean, wall-hung installations to more structured compositions,

helping retailers and designers create tailored solutions for their clients.

A comprehensive choice of unit sizes, heights and drawer options provides practical, usable storage, keeping everyday essentials organised and surfaces clutter-free. This balance of design and practicality is key to creating bathrooms that feel both stylish and effortless to use.

Connex also offers made-to-measure worktops, allowing for greater design freedom and a more bespoke finish. These can be paired with Ambiance Bain's SMO™ inset basins or sit-on options to achieve a seamless, contemporary aesthetic.

A curated palette of finishes, including soft neutrals and natural textures, ensures the collection suits a wide range of interior styles, while coordinating mirrors and accessories complete the overall look.

Connex provides a versatile, design-led solution for modern bathroom projects, combining flexibility, functionality and a premium finish.

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A softer approach to brassware finishes with BC Designs

Bathroom brassware is undergoing a subtle but meaningful shift, moving away from overtly polished surfaces towards finishes that feel quieter, more tactile and better aligned with the materials now shaping contemporary schemes.

BC Designs' introduction of Brushed Pewter and Brushed Brass speaks directly to this change, offering two distinct directions that reflect how designers are thinking about metal within the wider palette of a space.

Brushed Pewter brings a cooler, muted tone that sits comfortably alongside stone, marble and concrete-inspired surfaces, offering an alternative to chrome that feels less stark and more relaxed. Brushed Brass, meanwhile, introduces warmth with a softened edge, its brushed surface removing the glare often



associated with traditional brass and making it easier to integrate with richer colours and natural textures.

► 01206 827100
► www.bcdesigns.co.uk

Naturepanel Launches Characterful Shiplap Range for Modern Bathrooms

Award-winning interior wall panel brand Naturepanel has expanded its decorative collection with the launch of its characterful Shiplap range. Designed to bring a timeless aesthetic to modern bathrooms, the collection captures both rustic country charm and relaxed New England coastal style, with wide slats that add texture and visual depth.

Available in seven on-trend finishes, including soft neutrals and authentic woodgrains, Shiplap offers versatile design options to suit a variety of interiors. Each 2400mm-high panel features a five-slat format and incorporates Naturepanel's Hydrolock tongue-and-groove system, ensuring a seamless, fully waterproof finish - ideal for bathrooms and shower enclosures.

Etched shadow lines recreate the look of traditional timber panelling



without ongoing maintenance, while colour-matched and contrasting details enhance realism. Made in Britain, FSC-certified and 100% recyclable, the range combines sustainability with practicality, offering easy installation, low maintenance and a 30-year warranty - perfect for today's bathroom environments.

► 0131 2902862
► www.naturepanel.co.uk

Frontline – Texture takes the lead in the Mineral Flute brassware collection

Surface detail continues to shape the direction of bathroom design, and Frontline Bathrooms' latest launch responds with quiet confidence. The Mineral Flute collection introduces a

tactile quality to brassware, where fluted detailing is not simply decorative but formed as part of the casting itself, lending each piece a sense of depth while maintaining a clean, contemporary outline.

Offered across a comprehensive suite that spans basin mixers, wall-mounted options, bath fillers and floorstanding bath shower mixers, the collection allows for a cohesive scheme that carries texture across the space without interruption. A considered palette of finishes, from chrome and matt black through to brushed brass, gunmetal and brushed bronze, opens up opportunities to pair fittings with both cooler and warmer interior schemes.

Crafted from solid brass and fitted with ceramic disc cartridges, each piece is designed with longevity in mind, supported by a lifetime guarantee on the body and a five-year warranty on internal components. Selected finishes benefit from PVD coating, enhancing resistance to everyday wear, while WRAS-approved models offer reassurance for UK specification.

With Mineral Flute, Frontline Bathrooms introduces a collection that places texture at the forefront, offering a refined alternative within contemporary brassware.



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A stronger proposition: **BC Designs** focuses on product, material and the trade

BC Designs has long held a distinct position within the UK bathroom market, recognised for its focus on freestanding baths, material innovation and a design language that bridges traditional and contemporary styles with ease. Founded in 1999, the company has built its reputation on creating statement pieces that sit at the centre of a scheme, supported by a growing portfolio that now spans brassware, basins, furniture and accessories, all shaped by the same material-led approach.

What is becoming increasingly clear is how that offer is evolving, not just through new products, but through a more defined approach to how those products reach the showroom floor.

The headline move is the launch of three new Cian® baths, Westmere, Cavendish and Highcroft, each created exclusively for bricks-and-mortar retailers. In practical terms, that exclusivity matters. At a time when many bathroom products are instantly pulled into online price comparison, BC Designs has chosen to give physical showrooms something protected, distinctive and far better suited to the kind of in-person selling that still shapes the best bathroom projects. Customers are able to understand the scale, finish and quality property, while retailers have more space to sell on

knowledge, design and material value rather than being pushed towards discounting.

That same confidence can be seen in the way BC Designs is expanding ColourKast. Available on the company's Cian baths, the technology allows colour to run through the material itself, rather than sitting on the surface, which gives every piece a depth and solidity that feels much more convincing in a showroom setting. The introduction of new shades including Pale Peach, Rose Bloom, Aqua Blue and Minty Green gives the collection a fresher, lighter feel, while still offering the durability and consistency that specifiers expect from a statement bath. It also gives retailers more freedom to talk about colour in a way that feels material-led rather than decorative, which is a far stronger proposition on the showroom floor.

The brassware collection is also being sharpened, with Brushed Pewter and Brushed Brass joining the range. Both finishes reflect a broader move within bathroom design towards metals that feel softer and less reflective, sitting more comfortably alongside stone, timber and painted surfaces. Because they are produced using a PVD process, they also answer the practical demand for durability, helping retailers offer finishes that look good in the showroom and keep that quality over time in the home.



Alongside this is the return of BC Sanitan, now produced in-house under the BC Designs umbrella. That matters not only from a brand point of view, but from an operational one too, giving the company closer control over quality, supply and lead times. For the trade, that kind of reliability carries real weight. What emerges is a business that is not standing still, but building a tighter, more assured proposition around the needs of the showroom sector.

BC | DESIGNS

▶ 01206 827100 ▶ www.bcdesigns.co.uk



Visit Official Bathroom Partner Roper Rhodes at Grand Designs Live

Roper Rhodes is bringing the latest bathroom trends to the Grand Designs show at ExCeL London as the official Bathroom Partner of the Grand House, the show's centrepiece, bringing together contemporary styles and innovative design in a two-storey villa full of inspiration.

Sharing the house with many other leading figures within the interior design space including Consentino, Feather & Black and Cult furniture Roper Rhodes' bathroom sits alongside a living space with 360 degree wood burning stove and bedroom designed by Katie Mays, within an exterior finished in a Dekton façade. The design concept is underpinned by a focus on decarbonisation using renewable fuels, with a heat pump and thermal energy system demonstrating how the future can mix luxury finishes with being environmentally conscious.

To compliment this Roper Rhodes' Head of Content Production, Zoe Jones, has embraced the minimal mid century trend to create a design that feels fresh, calming and effortlessly grounded. Natural walnut finishes pair seamlessly with terrazzo, while fluted wood surfaces introduce gentle warmth. To anchor the scheme, neutral whites are used as a soft backdrop, with Nickel

brassware ensuring a cohesive, understated look. Visitors can immerse themselves in a spa like environment and discover everything from the real wood finishes to the classic detailing firsthand.

Central to the bathroom space will be the carefully curated selection of furniture, brassware, mirrors, and accessories that speak to the traditionalist at heart – Walcot. Recent trends have seen a move towards people celebrating homes with character – with statement pieces and details all contributing to an individual's style. Walcot fills the gap of a classically art-deco inspired range that takes inspiration from furniture restoration and antique inspired furniture has been on a steady rise.

As you would expect from the company at the heart of home of bathing, they will also include their much loved Harrow double ended roll-top bathtub with a separate wetroom, illustrating how both can work side by side in a modern bathroom.

Following the successful Channel 4 show of the same name, the Grand Designs Show launched in 2005 and regularly attracts over 45,000 visitors over its duration. With a mix of attendees from those planning home renovation projects to new house owners, there are more than 500 exhibitors covering a wide array of subjects, including self-build and appliances to eco-tech.



If you'd like to discuss these or any other Roper Rhodes products, visit the Grand House and Stand H70 from 1st to 4th May.

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Imex Ceramics UK – New Brochure, New Product

Imex Ceramics UK are delighted to announce the launch of our 2026 brochure, bringing together our latest developments across sanitaryware, brassware and furniture. More than a collection of products, it represents a refined vision for the modern bathroom, showcasing considered engineering, elegant aesthetics and solutions designed for real living.

At the centre of this launch is the new Luna UltraVortex toilet, a product that sets a new benchmark for performance and comfort. Engineered for excellent flushing efficiency, it delivers ultimate cleanliness with every use, whilst advanced noise-reduction technology ensures a quieter, more refined experience. These technical details are thoughtfully integrated into a design that

feels contemporary yet timeless, making Luna UltraVortex a versatile solution for every bathroom environment, from compact spaces to luxurious family settings. Its recognition with a Red Dot Design Award further highlights the balance of innovation and design excellence at the heart of the product.

Alongside this advancement in sanitaryware, we are proud to introduce the Luna and Quadro furniture collections, an exciting milestone for the brand. These are our first furniture ranges to be manufactured in the UK, reinforcing a strong commitment to quality, craftsmanship and sustainability.

The collections are offered in five stunning new colours, providing flexibility for designers and homeowners to create bathrooms that feel individual and intentional. Whether paired with

minimalist ceramics or used to introduce warmth and contrast, Luna and Quadro are designed to adapt seamlessly across a variety of interior styles while maintaining a cohesive, premium feel.

Scheduled to launch in Spring 2026, the Luna and Quadro furniture ranges, together with the Luna UltraVortex toilet, represent a confident step forward and tone for the year ahead. As showcased throughout the new brochure, these launches reflect a clear and considered approach, one that values innovation without excess, craftsmanship without compromise, and design that enhances everyday living.



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Partnership That Performs: Inside Scudo's Continued Growth

With economic pressures continuing to weigh on the KBB sector, Harrison Bathrooms has been working more closely than ever with retailers to sustain growth across the Scudo portfolio, ensuring the brand's success supports and drives growth for its customers.

As it approaches almost 12 months since the rebrand of Scudo, Commercial Director Shaun Corcoran explains how the past year has been defined by transformation and momentum, resulting in a record-breaking performance.

"Evolving and elevating the Scudo brand has strengthened our position within retail showrooms. The look and feel of the brand now reflects a lifestyle proposition, making it more appealing to homeowners and creating new opportunities," Corcoran explains. "Even in what many would describe as a stagnant market, our refreshed strategy has enabled us to gain market share

month on month, and that's something we're really proud of."

In addition to the brand's fresh new look, central to this success is its agile business model, an ethos that continues to drive performance across the business. In an industry facing ongoing challenges and uncertainty, flexibility has become a key differentiator for Harrison Bathrooms.

"Retailers need supply partners who can react quickly," Corcoran adds. "Our structure allows us to do exactly that, adapting to demand, supporting customers with strong commercials and staying ahead of trends with an exemplary supply chain."

The results of this strategy will be on full display in June, as Harrison Bathrooms prepares to exhibit at InstallerSHOW 2026, where it will unveil a host of new Scudo products developed in response to retailer demand.

Marketing Manager Hayley Bowman highlights the customer led strategy behind the upcoming

launches. "Everything we're introducing this year is rooted in insight," she says. "We've listened closely to retailer feedback, consumer research and had many thought provoking conversations with retailers. For 2026, our goal was simple: expand our much loved ranges to offer greater choice, while introducing new collections that provide something genuinely different."

Among the highlights are expansions to the popular Colour by Scudo range, including new styles in the six most popular metallic finishes, alongside the introduction of walnut and stone across furniture collections. New ranges of acrylic baths and shower trays promise to offer something exciting for retailers, combining standout design with strong commercial appeal.

Supporting product development is continued investment. Harrison Bathrooms has committed to enhancing its delivery fleet with 35 new delivery vans, alongside plans to expand office space, improve sustainability across packaging, and refresh its Leeds showroom facility.

As Corcoran concludes: "We're not standing still. Everything we're doing is about supporting our customers and strengthening the Scudo brand, and we have a lot more planned for 2026."



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Zaneti – Where Classic Meets Contemporary: Micro Shaker

Shaker design has long been a cornerstone of bathroom furniture – valued for its balance, familiarity and enduring appeal. But as interiors continue to evolve, so too must the details that define them. Enter the micro shaker: a refined, contemporary interpretation of a classic, designed for today's more considered spaces.

Zaneti's Cotswold and Origin ranges bring this evolution to life through a slim micro shaker profile that offers a softer, more sophisticated aesthetic. By reducing the frame and embracing cleaner lines, the design delivers the character of shaker styling without the visual weight, making it ideal for both modern and transitional interiors.

At the heart of both collections is a focus on proportion and restraint. The subtle framing detail creates depth and interest, while maintaining a calm, uncluttered look across the furniture. This balance allows the ranges to work seamlessly across a variety of bathroom styles – from pared-back contemporary schemes to warmer, more traditional settings.

The finish palette further enhances this versatility. Zaneti's premium super matt finishes are available in White, Cashmere, Henley Blue, Boston Green and Sandy Oak – a carefully curated selection of on-trend tones that reflect the shift towards softer, more natural interiors. Whether creating a light, neutral space or introducing deeper, more expressive colour, the micro shaker format adapts effortlessly.

Cotswold offers a flexible modular solution, giving retailers and designers the ability to configure



layouts to suit a wide range of spaces and customer requirements. Origin, as a fitted collection, provides a more architectural approach, enabling cohesive, design-led installations with a strong furniture presence.

Importantly, the two ranges are designed to work seamlessly side by side, allowing end users to mix Cotswold and Origin within the same setting to create more tailored and visually interesting bathroom solutions.

Beyond design, Zaneti's commitment to quality and service remains a defining advantage. All furniture is proudly Made in Britain, ensuring consistent quality and reliable supply. With Next Day Delivery service, retailers can respond quickly to demand without compromising on specification or lead times. Importantly, Zaneti products are not sold online – reinforcing the value of the showroom and supporting retail partners in maintaining margin and exclusivity.

As consumer preferences continue to shift towards more refined, design-led interiors, the micro shaker presents a compelling opportunity.



Familiar yet forward-thinking, it bridges the gap between classic and contemporary – offering a look that feels both timeless and current.

With Cotswold and Origin, Zaneti delivers a considered evolution of shaker design, tailored for today's market and built to perform in the showrooms.

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BATHROOMS



Sharp New Looks for Bathrooms to Love SS26 Launch

The new Spring Summer 2026 launch from Bathrooms to Love, the premium bathroom brand from leading distributor, PJH, is full of sophisticated new designs and inspiration to take customers to the next level.

Featuring over a hundred product additions, from new on-pointe designs to the latest bathroom innovations, the refreshed Collection is packed full of aspirational ideas and presented in an enhanced 348-page brochure layout.

Satisfying the latest up and coming bathroom trends, the new portfolio continues to take inspiration from nature, focussing on muted colour palettes, natural tones, organic forms, and contrasting finishes and textures. Paired with premium product quality and reliability, alongside PJH's class-leading, next-day, nationwide delivery

service, makes for a perfect all-round bathroom supply solution.

Highlights of the Collection span the Modular Furniture, Ceramics, Heating, and Showering categories, supported with aspirational new brochure photography, product tips and advice. In furniture, CHIC is the epitome of modern, understated style – a floor-standing, handleless range with a unique circular door design, elegant metal legs and ample cupboard storage. Meanwhile the popular KUBA range has been extended to include further handleless units in its fluted, oak- and walnut-effect, textured finishes. It also welcomes a new Matt White colour option, boasting the same soft, signature curves and flexible storage.

In ceramics, going one step beyond rimless WCs, is Bathrooms to Love's own new SWIRLUX™ toilet range. Featuring innovative rimless 360° flushing technology, these toilets have been carefully designed and moulded to provide a unique swirling action to help reduce water usage,

whilst maximising toilet efficiency. This category also welcomes new COMFORT-HEIGHT WCs, as well as new statement WASHBOWLS.

Industrial design elegance from a new GUNMETAL finish, is an introduction to the showering category. With deep, dark grey metallic accents, new Iconic Wetroom Panels with a Gunmetal profile project high-end, sophisticated looks. To coordinate, a new shower and brassware range, also in striking Gunmetal, joins the Collection. Other additions to showering include an innovative WETROOM STORAGE SHELF column, and ULTRA-SLIM TRAYS boasting an incredibly strong yet lightweight structure.

On the heating front, a luxurious new ELECTRIC RADIATOR family includes an intelligent built-in thermostat control with a sleek, modern design. With great energy saving properties this range is available in a variety of styles and finishes. In addition, three new stylish standard LADDER RADIATOR ranges also join this category.

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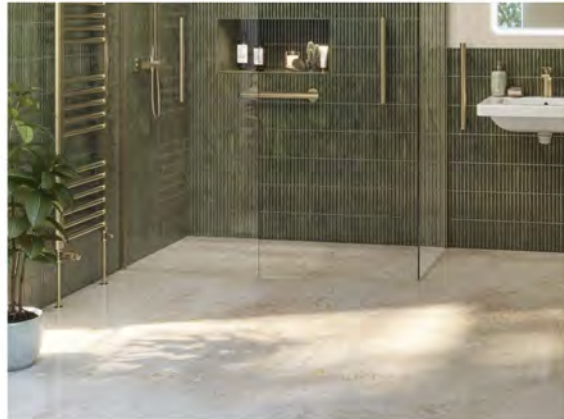
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hib. unveils Spring 2026 collection focused on clever, design-led innovation

In a world where “bigger is better” often dominates, bathroom specialist, hib., has spent the past year refining thoughtful innovations that elevate the bathroom experience. Spring 2026 is the brand’s most extensive mirror line-up in its 36-year history, a collection that embodies precision, purpose and design-led intelligence.

At the heart of the launch is “Clever Little Ideas”, hib.’s campaign celebrating subtle innovations that make a real difference. From ghost-lit mirrors where the illumination vanishes when turned off, to Radiance mirrors with concealed LEDs, the collection turns everyday utility into an experience of quiet elegance.

Radiance LED Mirror. hib.’s most comprehensive mirror range ever, with 31 SKUs in sizes from compact 400mm to expansive 1600mm widths. Diffused LED edges create a soft ambient halo, adjustable colour temperatures, with extensive demist coverage. Radiance Grand mirrors can link wirelessly for multi-basin layouts, delivering synchronised illumination with a single control.

Spirit & Vale Ghost Mirrors. Sleek mirrors where technology disappears until it’s needed. Adjustable LED lighting, integrated USB/USB-C charging and steam-free pads offer precision, yet maintain a minimalist surface when off. These mirrors embody the “Clever Little Ideas” philosophy: innovation that feels invisible but indispensable.

Vella Concealed Cistern and Juno/Vesta Flush Plates. The Vella frame combines smart engineering with minimalist design, hiding the cistern behind the wall for uncluttered sightlines. Juno’s circular or Vesta’s square flush plates, each in seven finishes, provide a simple, personalised touch. Designed for easy use and seamless integration, the system balances function with a clean, modern look.

Every detail of Spring 2026 has been considered through the lens of usability and beauty. From the subtle glow of a ghost-lit mirror to the thoughtful design enhances daily life in small but meaningful ways.

“This launch is a milestone for hib.,” says Rob Ginsberg, CEO of hib. “We’ve focused on meaningful innovation that people interact with



every day. Our Spring 2026 collection brings that vision to life, giving designers and homeowners solutions that are clever, functional and beautifully simple.

“Our goal is simple: many form with function and give people choices that feel intentional. Sometimes, it’s the little things that matter most.”

Explore the collection at www.hib.co.uk and see how subtle innovation can redefine the bathroom experience.

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▶ contracts@hib.co.uk
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The White Space Website is Here.

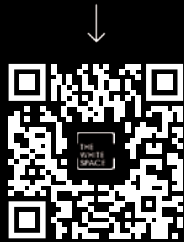


Apr 26

- Sommer Showering
- Redroom Heating
- The White Space

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For the first time, Redroom, Sommer & The White Space come together in one beautifully refreshed collection – designed to make choosing, displaying and selling easier than ever.



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FLORIM stone – When nature meets technological innovation

A versatile porcelain stoneware surface developed by Florim to support contemporary interior architecture, particularly in kitchen and bathroom countertops. Conceived as a design material rather than simply a surface, it establishes a dialogue between nature, technological innovation and sustainable production.

The slabs are produced in a single large format, 160x320 cm, ensuring visual continuity across kitchens, bathrooms and integrated furnishing elements. Three thicknesses - 6, 12 and 20 mm - allow the material to adapt to countertops, vanities, tables and bespoke indoor or outdoor applications.

A palette of more than fifty shades and material interpretations expands its expressive potential, supported by multiple edge design options. Marble, concrete and stone inspirations define three complementary aesthetic languages, ranging from refined veining to architectural minimalism and textured natural surfaces.

Advanced digital decoration technologies enhance depth, tactility and three-dimensional effects, while full-body coloured blends reinforce material authenticity. The result is a surface system offering designers compositional freedom and aesthetic coherence across residential, hospitality and retail environments.

Produced through environmentally responsible processes, FLORIM stone reflects the sustainability



commitments of Florim (B Corp certified). Part of the CarbonZero project (Carbon Neutral surfaces that offset all CO₂ emissions generated throughout their entire life cycle) and earned the Green Good Design Award 2024, confirming its forward-looking vision.



▶ www.florim.com

Barwick Consolidates Three Own Brand Ranges into One with The White Space Brochure

Barwick Bathroom Distribution has launched a new edition of The White Space brochure, bringing together its three own-brand collections into a single, consolidated guide for retailers.

For the first time, Redroom radiators and Sommer showers have been fully integrated alongside The White Space furniture and ceramics within one comprehensive brochure. The move creates a streamlined resource that allows retailers to view coordinated bathroom solutions across multiple product categories in one place.

By consolidating the three ranges into a single publication, Barwick has simplified the process of specifying and sourcing products. The brochure now covers furniture, ceramics, showers, radiators and accessories, giving retailers a clearer overview of the full offer while making it easier to build complete bathroom displays from one trusted supplier.

The combined collection focuses on delivering reliable quality, contemporary design and strong value, helping retailers offer stylish bathroom solutions that appeal to a wide range of customers.

Alongside the new brochure, Barwick has also strengthened its digital support with

thewhitespace.co.uk. The website now brings The White Space, Redroom and Sommer brands together on one platform, with full product listings across all three ranges to help retailers browse the collection and showcase products to customers.

With detailed product information and imagery available online, the website provides an additional tool for retailers looking to present complete bathroom solutions and support in-showroom conversations.

The new The White Space brochure is available now, with copies available for retailers to request through Barwick.

For more information or to view the updated collections, visit the website or speak to your Barwick Area Sales Manager.



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Kudos – Choosing the right showering foundation

One of the first practical decisions to make when refurbishing a bathroom is choosing the best showering foundation. Today, there is a strong emphasis on creating luxurious open spaces with both wet and dry zones, using glass partitioning, and the range of products available to assist has grown exponentially since the first wetroom concept was used domestically in the UK. Installing a shower enclosure and having to use large plinths on the tray to accommodate plumbing is gradually becoming a thing of the past as innovations under the trays become more effective.

Kudos has been manufacturing showering products for decades in their factory in the Lake District. They offer a range of foundations to complement their enclosures and glass showering panels.

Aqua4Ma Evolution is their easy-to-install wetroom solution. Thankfully, gone are the days of waiting for membranes to cure or dry when creating a full wet room or a wet area in a bathroom; membranes have been replaced by CNC-machined panels of extruded PVC, a material that's totally waterproof and quick to install. Aqua4Ma Evolution is suitable for immediate

finishing with tiles, vinyl or micro-cement. Its closed-cell extruded PVC panels with solvent-welding joints allow fitting and tiling within the day. These robust panels also allow tiles to be removed and replaced without compromising the system's waterproof integrity.

If your client decides on a shower tray as the foundation for their showering area, Kudos offer two comprehensive ranges: Connect2 and Ultimate trays, both offering a range of sizes to suit a plethora of spaces.

The Connect2 tray boasts a truly unique feature. It has been designed specifically to avoid floor joists, ensuring it retains its super-low profile when installed. The tray stands at just 35mm in height and avoids all standard joist sizes and spans thanks to the precise positioning of a unique offset dual waste outlet, allowing the installer to choose the waste clear from obstruction to connect. A reinforced, magnetically secured linear waste cover that's easily removed for cleaning, sits neatly over the plugs, offering a modern twist and completing the installation. The Connect2 range of trays is available in a choice of slate-effect grey or white, high-gloss white, or slip-resistant (SR) white finish. It is manufactured in an acrylic-capped ABS filled with a structural resin-bonded stone for maximum strength and stability. The collection

offers 12 rectangular sizes from 800mm square to 1700x800mm plus four quadrant/offset quadrant options. Each comes complete with a high-flow waste rated at 35 litres per minute.

The Ultimate slimline shower tray collection stands at just 27mm in height and comes in 2 standard slate effect finishes, 4 bespoke-coloured options and 19 standard sizes. They are lightweight, slip and stain-resistant, trimmable to fit on site, and the slate effect finishes contain an antimicrobial additive to inhibit the growth of microbes.

The composite material used to produce these new trays is up to 60% lighter than a traditional stone-filled shower tray. The composite construction, which has a CNC-machined waterproof core, features a slip-resistant acrylic surface and is virtually unbreakable. Kudos offers a standard collection from stock in two colour finishes, in white and grey slate effect, and 19 sizes up to 2000 x 900mm, all with an end-positioned waste.

The trays can also be manufactured to order as a bespoke option which expands the range to 6 coloured options and 4 different waste positions. These special orders can be made to any size up to 2000 x 1000mm and they offer an option of choosing a contrasting-coloured edge to the tray too.

Trading as RONAL Bathrooms UK Ltd, the Kudos portfolio includes shower enclosures, shower trays, over-bath screens, and wet-room solutions sold via KBB showrooms and merchants across the UK.



Connect2 Quadrant tray



Ultimate tray

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KUDOS

SHOWERING SOLUTIONS



pinnacle8 brushed brass straight sliding enclosure.

SHOWROOM COLLECTION

pinnacle8

Brushed brass enclosures

The cornerstone of the Kudos Showroom Collection, the pinnacle8 range includes hinged, straight sliding and sliding quadrant doors with each of them now available in chrome, matt black and brushed brass.

The pinnacle8 collection is characterised by a minimalist finger pull and easy fit wall posts with concealed fixings throughout. Manufactured in the beautiful Lake District, the pinnacle8 range is 2000mm high and is backed by the Kudos Lifetime Guarantee.

To find out more please contact:
marketing@kudosshowers.co.uk
www.kudosshowers.co.uk

Features & Benefits

- + 2000mm high
- + 8mm toughened safety glass
- + Concealed fixings throughout
- + Slimline profile with 20mm adjustment
- + Crystal clear glass to glass seals
- + Available in chrome, matt black and brushed brass finishes
- + Lifetime guarantee
- + Made In Britain



FOR MORE
INFORMATION

pinnacle8 brushed brass quad enclosure.





Discover the new 'CHAMELEON' modular bathroom furniture brand, brought to you by Fluidità

Modular bathroom furniture designed for effortless style and flexibility.

At the heart of its offering is the innovative 'Chameleon' concept, which redefines modular bathroom furniture with its unique quick-release technology. It seamlessly blends cutting-edge innovation with design-led quality to deliver highly customizable bathroom furniture for retailers, merchants, distributors, and showrooms.

Every detail is crafted with care and functionality in mind. Soft-close mechanisms come standard on all doors and drawers, ensuring a quiet and smooth user experience. A curated selection of on-trend handles in metallic finishes, stylish countertops and basins complement both modular and fitted furniture ranges – elevating any bathroom environment.

Operating from a state-of-the-art 80,000 sq ft production facility in East Yorkshire, Fluidità is part of Summerbridge, and enjoys the support of a trusted UK manufacturer with over 32 years of experience in the KBB own-label furniture industry. Michael Schultz, Operations Director comments:

"This is an exciting time for the business, substantial investment has been made to our manufacturing site in order to increase capacity and ensure we are suitably geared up to service volume orders for our Chameleon modular furniture as well the fitted furniture coming soon."

Andy Tsirtsikos, Key Account Manager comments: "As a UK manufacturer, we are very excited about the launch! Our Chameleon brand of modular bathroom furniture features a quick-release panel system so you can switch easily between our fashionable bathroom collections across Shaker, Slab and Handleless designs to suit modern and classic bathroom interiors. With a choice of six matching carcass and front door panel colourways, simply mix & match our interchangeable design-led fascia for an instant bathroom style upgrade. Our Chameleon brand offers eye-catching and functional bathroom furniture that adds charm to customers living space."

A good example of the flexibility offered by the Chameleon concept is the 'UDEN' Collection, with

contrasting carcass colour and front door panels as a way to incorporate accent colours into any bathroom suite for instant design impact. Hence, the newly designed Showroom in Anlaby is a great place for trade customers not only to view the range but also to experiment and create their own configurations, including with various handle designs and countertops.

Fluidità is also proud to be an eco-conscious manufacturing brand, with its bathroom cabinets made from responsibly sourced timber from renewable forests – demonstrating its commitment to sustainable and ethical practices.

To find out more, email or visit the website. You can also book an appointment to see the Showroom located at 26 Springfield Way, Anlaby, Hull HU4 7RU.

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