

INSIDE: ALFED FEATURED IN OFFICIAL
MONARCHY & DEMOCRACY PUBLICATION

ALFED HOSTS FIRST-EVER MEMBERS' DAY AT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HQ

Open Day Showcases
Innovation &
Collaboration at
Innoval Technology

**ALFED Announces Trade
Committee Leadership
Team** as Trade &
Industrial Policy Agenda
Intensifies

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MEMBER VISITS



To kick off April, our Industry & Skills Development Manager, Rachel Wiffen, visited Capalex (Capital Aluminium Extrusions Ltd) in Cumbria, an innovative hub for precision aluminium extrusion. Capalex brings every stage of production together under one roof, from extrusion and heat treatment to machining and powder coating, offering flexible alloys, tight tolerances and rapid turnaround for customers ranging from start-ups to global manufacturers across sectors including aerospace and automotive.

It was a fantastic opportunity to connect with the team, share insights and see first-hand how they continue to push the boundaries of precision engineering. A big thank you to everyone at Capalex for their warm welcome and generous hospitality, collaborations like this help strengthen the UK's aluminium ecosystem.

To learn more about Capalex, please visit: <https://capalex.co.uk/>



In April 2026, Sophie Allen and Rachel Wiffen visited ALFED member Jenks & Cattell Engineering in Wolverhampton, gaining first-hand insight into one of the UK's most established metal manufacturing specialists.

Founded in 1886, the company combines a rich heritage with modern, state-of-the-art facilities, delivering high-quality metal pressings, laser fabrication, CNC machining and welded assemblies for a diverse range of industries.

During the visit, Sophie and Rachel met with Marketing Manager Eleanor Imray to explore opportunities for collaboration, reinforcing the importance of strong partnerships across the aluminium and wider metals supply chain. Visits like this play a key role in strengthening connections across the ALFED membership, supporting knowledge sharing and driving innovation throughout the UK metals sector.

To learn more, please visit: <https://jcel.co.uk/>



In March 2026, the ALFED Extrusion Sector Group meeting, hosted by BOAL Extrusion UK Ltd and led by Chair Emma Swann, brought together members from across the extrusion community for a forward-looking and highly collaborative session. As part of the Aluminium Allies initiative, members were encouraged to bring new starters and early-career colleagues, creating a dynamic mix of experience and fresh perspectives that enriched discussions on workforce development and the future talent pipeline.

A key highlight was a thought-provoking session on leadership, recruitment and retention, complemented by open dialogue on career pathways and industry progression. The meeting also focused on strengthening the group's strategic role, with ongoing work to build a clearer, evidence-based picture of UK extrusion capacity, market demand and supply chain challenges. A tour of the BOAL facility and networking opportunities rounded off the event, reinforcing the group's value as a platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing and sector-wide alignment.

To learn more about BOAL Extrusion UK, please visit: <https://boalextrusion.com/>



In March 2026, ALFED CEO Nadine Bloxsome and Industry & Skills Development Manager Rachel Wiffen visited the BASF Chemetall team at their Milton Keynes site, where they engaged in insightful discussions and strengthened connections across the aluminium value chain.

The visit highlighted the wide range of markets Chemetall supports and the vital role its surface treatment technologies play from manufacturing through to downstream applications. It was a valuable opportunity to explore how these capabilities contribute to the broader aluminium ecosystem and how collaboration across the sector can be enhanced.

Special thanks to Wayne Brown, Gary Mothersole and Adrian Bond for sharing their expertise and perspectives. Visits like these underscore the innovation, partnership and knowledge that continue to drive our industry forward.

To learn more, please visit: <https://chemetall.com/>



In March 2026, ALFED was delighted to welcome members of the Distribution Sector Group to Liverpool for an engaging in-person meeting, kindly hosted by Peel Ports Group as part of their Heart of Britain campaign.

The visit began with a networking dinner, followed by a formal session at the Port of Liverpool focused on sustainable logistics and strengthening collaboration across the aluminium supply chain. Members gained valuable insights into port operations, global trade developments and the evolving regulatory landscape, including a timely trade update from the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade.

A guided port tour further highlighted large-scale operations, materials handling and sustainability initiatives, reinforcing the critical role ports play in supporting resilient and efficient supply chains. The event provided an excellent platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration and a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the aluminium distribution sector.

To learn more about Peel Ports, please visit: <https://peelports.com/>

ALFED AND DBT VISIT SWAN ALLOY TO DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES ACROSS THE UK ALUMINIUM RECYCLING SECTOR



On Tuesday 7th July 2026, representatives from the Aluminium Federation (ALFED) visited Swan Alloy in Swansea alongside colleagues from the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) to gain first-hand insight into the opportunities and challenges facing the UK's aluminium recycling and secondary production industry.

The visit saw Rachel Wiffen and Sophie Allen from ALFED joined by Rebecca Scott and Tomos Rowley of DBT, who were welcomed by Anthony Douglas and the Swan Alloy team for a tour of the company's facilities and a discussion on current industry priorities.

As a key player within the UK's aluminium recycling landscape, Swan Alloy provided valuable insight into its operations, highlighting both its successes and the wider challenges affecting the sector. Discussions focused on rising energy costs, international competitiveness, regulatory pressures and the impact these factors can have on investment decisions across the industry.

The visit provided an important opportunity for DBT representatives to see how these issues affect businesses at site level and to hear directly from industry on the practical challenges facing aluminium recyclers and secondary producers. Insights gathered during the visit will help support ongoing discussions around supply chain resilience, circular economy objectives and the long-term competitiveness of the UK aluminium sector.

ALFED extends its thanks to Anthony Douglas and the entire Swan Alloy team for hosting the visit and facilitating such a productive discussion.

POPULAR LME RING TOUR BRINGS ALFED EXTRUSION & DISTRIBUTION SECTOR GROUP MEMBERS TOGETHER

Members from ALFED's Extrusion and Distribution Sector Groups were joined by colleagues from across the wider ALFED membership for another popular visit to the London Metal Exchange (LME), combining market insight with valuable networking opportunities.

More than 20 members attended the event, which began with a presentation on the history and evolution of the LME, providing a greater understanding of its role in global metals trading. Attendees were then given an exclusive opportunity to visit the famous trading floor and witness live trading in the Ring. The afternoon concluded with a networking session at Flight Club, where members strengthened existing relationships, made new connections and engaged with colleagues from across the aluminium supply chain. The event once again demonstrated the value of bringing ALFED members together to gain wider market insight while building the strong professional networks that support collaboration across the UK aluminium industry.

A special thank you goes to the London Metal Exchange team and everyone who attended for making the day another success.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



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To learn more, please visit: <https://qform3d.co.uk/>



RAMBASE

RamBase cloud-based Quality Management System is designed to support the aluminium and wider metals supply chain. The platform helps manufacturers manage quality, compliance and continuous improvement through structured workflows and full audit traceability. Capabilities include document control, non-conformance management, corrective and preventive actions (CAPA), audit management, digital GEMBA walks, competence tracking, and the ability to embed instructional videos and imagery directly within Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documents. Operator-driven improvement is supported by enabling employees to propose and track ideas. Trusted by global producers such as Norsk Hydro and Alcoa, RamBase QMS is scalable for SMEs and can operate standalone or integrated with RamBase Cloud ERP.

To learn more, please visit: <https://rambase.com/>



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To learn more, please visit: <https://sgmmagnetics.com/>



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To learn more, please visit: <https://abports.co.uk/>



ORIGIN POWDER COATING

Origin Powder Coating has been established to produce painted aluminum extrusions specifically for the Origin Frames range of products. Its objective is to enhance the quality and durability of the profiles while simultaneously reducing lead times to meet customer expectations. This operation will be managed with a focus on sustainability, aligning with the recyclable nature of aluminum.

To learn more, please visit: <https://origin-global.com/>



ZORBATEK

Founded two years ago, Zorbatek is a family-run recycling and materials processing business built on a 25-year heritage in glass recycling through its association with Recresco. Specialising in aluminium recovery, the company focuses on processing aluminium closures and ring pulls, helping to maximise the value of recyclable materials and support the circular economy. In addition, Zorbatek operates a secondary processing facility dedicated to handling sub-40mm zorba material, enabling efficient recovery from complex mixed-metal streams. Combining industry expertise, innovative processing techniques, and a commitment to sustainability, Zorbatek delivers reliable, high-quality recycling solutions for customers across the UK.

To learn more, please visit: <https://zorbatek.com/>



S. NORTON GROUP

S. Norton Group is a long-established UK metal recycling business, founded in 1962, with over four decades of experience in aluminium processing. Operating across a network of facilities nationwide, the company specialises in the recovery, processing, and supply of ferrous and non-ferrous metals, with aluminium forming a core part of its operations.

The organisation plays a significant role in the UK's secondary aluminium market, returning valuable materials into the manufacturing supply chain. Through its activities, S. Norton supports the principles of the circular economy by reducing waste, conserving primary resources, and enhancing overall material efficiency.

With its established infrastructure, technical expertise, and ongoing investment in capability, the company is well positioned as a key contributor to the sustainability and continued development of the UK aluminium recycling sector.

To learn more, please visit: <https://s-norton.com/>

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ALFED FEATURED IN OFFICIAL MONARCHY & DEMOCRACY PUBLICATION

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP, INDUSTRY AND NATIONAL PROGRESS

The Aluminium Federation (ALFED) is proud to announce its contribution to the official commemorative publication *Monarchy & Democracy: A History of Leadership*, launched in partnership with the History of Parliament Trust and St James's House.

The publication celebrates a century of constitutional evolution, democratic leadership, industrial progress and national resilience across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, reflecting the enduring partnership between Parliament, industry and national institutions that has helped shape modern Britain.

Produced by the History of Parliament and St James's House, the publication explores the role of leadership, innovation and stewardship throughout one of the most transformative periods in modern history, whilst recognising organisations and sectors that continue to contribute to the nation's future prosperity.



ALFED's contribution highlights the critical role aluminium has played in Britain's industrial development over the past century, from wartime manufacturing and aerospace innovation to today's low-carbon transition, renewable energy infrastructure and advanced manufacturing capabilities.

The feature was developed with supporting contributions from ALFED members [Amari Metals Ltd](#), [Arconic Kitts Green](#) and [Bridgnorth Aluminium Ltd](#), showcasing the strength, diversity and strategic importance of the UK aluminium supply chain.

Nadine Bloxsome, CEO of ALFED, said:

"It is a privilege for ALFED and our members to be included within this landmark publication celebrating 100 years of Monarchy and Democracy."

Aluminium has been central to Britain's industrial progress for generations, from defence and aerospace through to construction, transport, packaging and renewable energy.

The themes explored throughout the publication – leadership, resilience, innovation and long-term stewardship – strongly resonate with the UK aluminium sector and the businesses that continue to invest in Britain's industrial future.

Today, the sector continues to play a vital role in supporting UK manufacturing, economic resilience and the transition towards a low-carbon, circular economy. This recognition provides an important opportunity to showcase both the heritage and future potential of the UK aluminium industry."

The ALFED feature explores the evolution of the Federation since its formation in 1962, highlighting its role in representing the UK aluminium value chain and advocating for aluminium as a strategic material essential to national competitiveness, industrial resilience and net zero ambitions.



It also profiles several leading UK manufacturers and supply chain businesses:

- **Arconic Kitts Green, Birmingham** – the UK's last remaining aluminium plate mill, originally established in 1938 to support Spitfire production and today supplying advanced alloys for defence, aerospace and space applications.
- **Bridgnorth Aluminium Ltd, Shropshire** – the UK's only aluminium coil rolling mill, operating a fully integrated rolling, casting and finishing facility supporting domestic manufacturing and sustainable production.
- **Amari Metals Ltd** – a key part of the UK's aluminium distribution and stockholding network, supporting thousands of manufacturers, fabricators and engineering businesses nationwide.

The publication launch took place on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at Westminster Abbey, bringing together representatives from Parliament, government, industry, academia and the media to reflect on a century of constitutional, societal and industrial development.



ALFED's contribution also reinforces the Federation's growing work around industrial strategy, critical materials, circular economy development and the long-term resilience of UK manufacturing. As highlighted throughout the publication, strong institutions and strategic industries remain fundamental to national prosperity, economic security and sustainable growth.

Bloxsome added:

"As the UK looks towards the future, aluminium will remain fundamental to delivering sustainable growth, energy transition, defence capability and advanced manufacturing."

"Our role at ALFED is to ensure the industry remains visible, valued and recognised as one of the UK's truly strategic industrial sectors, capable of supporting the next generation of economic and industrial development."

The official publication will be distributed across Westminster, government departments, Commonwealth institutions, universities and international networks, with an estimated global reach of more than 45 million through associated digital and media channels.

For more information about ALFED and the UK aluminium industry, visit www.alfed.org.uk.



ALFED HOSTS FIRST-EVER MEMBERS' DAY AT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HQ

On Thursday 30th April 2026, the Aluminium Federation (ALFED) proudly hosted its first-ever Members' Day at the picturesque Bragborough Hall Business Centre, surrounded by the sunny Northamptonshire countryside. The event brought together professionals from across the UK aluminium industry for a full day of insight, collaboration, and networking.

The morning sessions set a strong foundation, offering valuable industry updates and forward-looking perspectives. ALFED CEO Nadine Bloxsome opened the event with a comprehensive review of the year so far, alongside an outlook on upcoming challenges and opportunities within the sector. This was followed by an engaging presentation on solar energy by Neil Stott of headline sponsor Mypower, who shared practical guidance for manufacturers transitioning towards more sustainable energy solutions.



Attendees also gained important insights into trade and compliance. Anna Doherty from The Chartered Institute of Export and International Trade delivered key updates on evolving regulations, while Alex Christopher of CRU provided a detailed overview of emerging opportunities in Middle Eastern markets, equipping members with actionable strategies for international expansion.

In the afternoon, a series of spotlight sessions featured contributions from RamBase, ARUN Technology, Avails Energy, George Bain, and Innoval Technology. Each session offered specialist expertise and sparked valuable discussion among delegates. Alongside these, interactive roundtable sessions ran in parallel, hosted by Mypower and Lloyds Banking Group, focusing on how trade services can support UK manufacturers.

As the formal programme drew to a close, the event transitioned into a more relaxed atmosphere. Members enjoyed lunch provided by local wood-fired pizza company Laff's Pizza, along with garden games and informal networking. Activities such as swing ball, corn hole, and the ever-popular 3-dart challenge added a fun and competitive element to the day.

The darts competition saw Dr Amanda Spary of Nissan take first place with an impressive score of 122, including a bullseye and treble 18. She was awarded two bottles of Penrhos gin, fittingly packaged in aluminium bottles. Emma Swann, Managing Director of BOAL Extrusion UK, secured second place with a strong score of 88.



Reflecting on the success of the event, ALFED CEO Nadine Bloxsome said: *"This inaugural Members' Day has been a fantastic demonstration of the strength, innovation, and collaboration within our industry. It's been incredibly rewarding to see our members come together to share knowledge, build connections, and explore new opportunities. We're committed to building on this momentum and continuing to deliver real value to our members in the months and years ahead."*

ALFED extends its sincere thanks to headline sponsor Mypower, alongside exhibitor sponsors ARUN Technology Ltd, Avails Energy, and RamBase, as well as all speakers and attendees who contributed to making the day a success.

The first ALFED Members' Day marks the beginning of what is set to become a key event for the UK aluminium sector, reinforcing ALFED's commitment to supporting its members through insight, collaboration, and connection, while helping to strengthen the UK aluminium industry.

For further information about ALFED or to become a member, visit www.alfed.org.uk.



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ALFED ANNOUNCES TRADE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP TEAM AS TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY AGENDA INTENSIFIES

The Aluminium Federation (ALFED) is pleased to announce the appointment of Christophe Tersou (Novelis) as Chair of the ALFED Trade Committee and Dan Morear (Hydro) as Vice Chair.

These appointments come at a critical time for the UK aluminium sector as businesses navigate a complex trade and policy landscape shaped by carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAM), international trade agreements, industrial competitiveness challenges, circular economy policy and evolving global supply chains.

As trade and industrial policy grow in importance, the ALFED Trade Committee has become a key forum for industry expertise, market intelligence and evidence-based policy development, representing the UK aluminium sector.

Strengthening Industry Representation

Operating across the aluminium value chain, the Trade Committee enables members to monitor and respond to developments affecting competitiveness, market access, trade and regulatory compliance.

It plays a central role in shaping ALFED's policy positions, ensuring industry insight informs engagement with Government and regulators. Recent work has included engagement with HM Treasury, HMRC, the Department for Business and Trade (DBT), the Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) and other stakeholders on:

- UK CBAM implementation;
- UK-EU trade relations and cooperation;
- Trade remedies and anti-dumping measures;
- Industrial competitiveness and energy costs;
- Supply chain resilience;
- Aluminium scrap and circular economy policy;
- The Government's Metals Circularity Group;
- Global trade and geopolitical developments.

The Committee also provides a rapid response mechanism to ensure the industry can present a coordinated, evidence-led voice during consultations and market disruptions.

Leadership for a Changing Trade Environment

Christophe Tersou brings extensive international expertise as Director of Global Trade & Export Controls at Novelis. With over 20 years' experience across industry and consulting, he oversees global trade governance, customs compliance and operational strategies across multiple jurisdictions.

As Chair, Christophe brings strong strategic insight as the industry navigates shifting global trade dynamics, carbon policy measures, high energy costs and supply chain realignment, alongside the need to advance circularity and secure raw materials.

The Trade Committee is focused on three key priorities:

- CBAM and carbon cost alignment, including UK ETS-EU ETS linkage;
- A UK trade framework that supports industry through tariffs and trade remedies;
- Securing availability of secondary aluminium materials.

Dan Morear, Managing Director for Hydro's Recycling business, has been appointed Vice Chair following strong support from members.

With more than 20 years of experience within Hydro Aluminium, Dan brings broad expertise across the value chain, including recycling and extrusion. His experience includes leading Brexit preparations and contributing to Hydro's CBAM taskforce.

Speaking on ALFED and the work of the Trade Committee, Dan commented:

"What is ALFED? Put simply it is a trade organisation for the UK aluminium industry. Trade being the key word that connects all its members. The work of the Trade committee transcends the whole of the UK aluminium industry from producers and recyclers through to the finishers and retailers and the many support services in between. Recently the committee set out its 3 strategic priorities to support its members:

- *CBAM and carbon cost alignment*
- *The UK trade framework, duties and market access*
- *Secondary material and supply chain resilience*

The committee also highlight that a fragmented voice will fall on deaf ears, and it is imperative that collectively ALFED speaks with one consistent voice across all aspects of our advocacy for the industry - to ensure our voice is heard, understood and relevant to policymakers. I would encourage all other interest groups within ALFED to connect with the Trade Committee to support our common interests."



Dan Morear, Managing Director,
Hydro Wrexham



The Committee now also benefits from direct Board-level representation, ensuring its work aligns with ALFED's broader advocacy priorities.

Supporting Strategic Priorities

The Committee aligns with ALFED's Strategic Priorities Framework, which identifies trade, competitiveness, circularity and industrial growth as key focus areas.

Current priorities include:

- Supporting effective CBAM implementation ahead of January 2027;
- Engaging with Government on circular economy policy;
- Monitoring global trade flows and market distortions;
- Strengthening UK-EU industrial cooperation;
- Addressing competitiveness challenges such as energy costs;
- Supporting evidence-based policy to drive investment and long-term resilience.

Driving Evidence-Led Advocacy

The Trade Committee forms part of ALFED's wider group structure, helping translate operational realities into practical policy recommendations. Alongside Recycling, Extrusion, Distribution and Finishing groups, it ensures strong, coordinated industry representation.

As Government continues to develop policy across trade, carbon regulation, industrial strategy and resource security, ALFED remains committed to representing the aluminium industry clearly and constructively.

The Federation thanks Christophe and Dan for their commitment and looks forward to working with them as the Trade Committee strengthens its role at the centre of UK aluminium policy and advocacy.

SWAN ALLOY

Powering the Circular Economy: Swan Alloy

Based in Swansea, we represent the best of Wales's world-leading recycling industry. As proud ALFED members, we specialise in converting aluminium scrap, skimmings, and dross into high-quality reusable metal for a variety of applications.

Whether providing Toll Conversion services or supplying RSI and Deox products, Swan Alloy's commitment to the highest standards ensures a sustainable, low-carbon future for the aluminium sector in the UK.

swanalloy.com

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OPEN DAY SHOWCASES INNOVATION & COLLABORATION AT INNOVAL TECHNOLOGY

On Tuesday 19th May 2026, the Aluminium Federation (ALFED) and Innoval Technology successfully hosted an Open Day for ALFED members at Innoval's state-of-the-art facility located on the Advanced Manufacturing Park in Catcliffe, Rotherham, bringing together industry professionals for a day of insight, collaboration and innovation.

The event provided ALFED members with a unique opportunity to explore Innoval's advanced capabilities and gain valuable industry knowledge through expert-led presentations and live demonstrations.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The day commenced with a welcome and introduction from Innoval Technology's Managing Director, Mike Clinch, who shared an overview of the company's history, growth and technical expertise. This was followed by an address from ALFED CEO Nadine Bloxsome, who highlighted the importance of continued collaboration and the strength of the partnership between ALFED and Innoval Technology.

Technical Insights and Knowledge Sharing

Throughout the event, attendees engaged with Innoval's specialist teams, gaining first-hand insights into key areas shaping the future of the aluminium sector, including:

- Materials Characterisation and Testing
- Sustainability initiatives and developments
- Advanced Manufacturing Processes
- Knowledge Transfer and technical expertise

Live demonstrations enabled members to witness Innoval's cutting-edge technologies in action, reinforcing the organisation's position as a leader in metallurgical and process innovation.



Mike Clinch, Managing Director of Innoval Technology, added: *"We were delighted to welcome ALFED members to Innoval for our recent Open Day. It was a valuable opportunity to showcase our commitment to collaboration and sustainability-driven innovation, alongside our new laboratory facilities. Aluminium has a strong track record of enabling innovation across major industry sectors, and by working in partnership we can unlock the significant opportunities ahead. We encourage ALFED members to continue the conversation and explore further collaboration on shared technology, innovation and sustainability challenges."*

A 5-Star Occasion

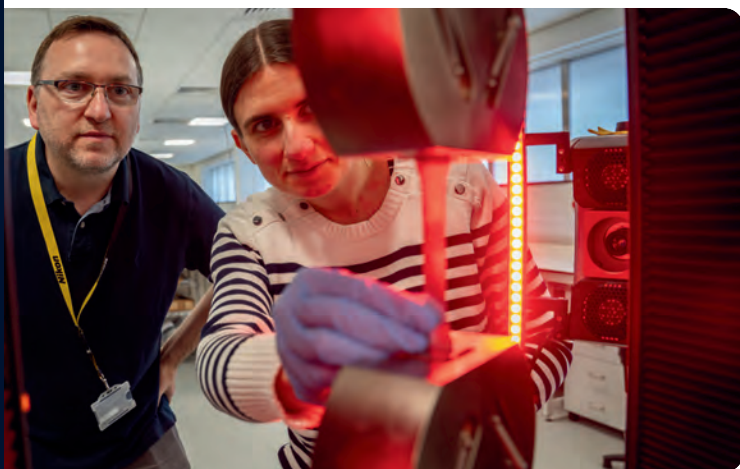
Feedback from attendees reflected the success of the day, with guests rating the Open Day as a five-star event when asked to assess the overall content, structure and organisation. One attendee commented: "It was really good, nice-sized audience, so a good chance to meet up with old and new contacts," highlighting the value of both the technical programme and the networking opportunities provided throughout the event.

Looking Ahead

The Innoval Open Day forms part of the ALFED's ongoing commitment to supporting our members through knowledge-sharing, networking opportunities, and access to industry-leading expertise. By hosting events at fantastic facilities such as Innoval Technology, ALFED continues to champion innovation and best practice across the aluminium industry.

For more information about Innoval, please visit: www.innovaltec.com

For more information about ALFED, or to become a member, please visit: www.alfed.org.uk



Speaking about the event, Nadine Bloxsome, CEO of ALFED, said: *"Events like this Open Day at Innoval Technology are invaluable in bringing our industry together to share knowledge, strengthen partnerships and explore the innovations driving our sector forward. The expertise and insights showcased by the Innoval team were exceptional, and it highlighted the real value of collaboration across the aluminium supply chain."*

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SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL SYSTEMS CELEBRATES 35 YEARS OF INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION

Senior Architectural Systems is marking its 35th anniversary, celebrating more than three decades of growth, investment and product development within the UK aluminium fenestration industry.

Established in 1991, the company has grown to become one of the UK's leading manufacturers of aluminium windows, doors, curtain walling and ancillary systems. Over this period, Senior has expanded its operational footprint and product portfolio, with a commitment to developing future-proof and energy-efficient solutions to meet the evolving needs of the construction industry. In March 2025, Senior entered a new phase of growth following its acquisition by ASSA ABLOY, supporting further expansion of its manufacturing capabilities and strengthening its position in the UK market.

Over the last 35 years, Senior has invested significantly in its manufacturing and distribution facilities in South Yorkshire, including the opening of a dedicated Thermal Improvement Centre in Rotherham. The company continues to operate from its headquarters in Denaby, where recent upgrades to the in-house powder coating facility have continued to support greater efficiency and quality control.

A major highlight for the company came in 2015 with the launch of Senior's patented PRe® thermal break technology. The system secured a UK patent the following year and went on to receive a King's Award for Enterprise in Innovation. Senior's PRe® range of aluminium windows and doors has supported a wide range of projects across the education, healthcare and residential sectors and remains a core part of Senior's product offering.

Since 2019, Senior has also been the proud host of Aluminium Day, a dedicated awareness day for the aluminium industry which provides an annual platform to celebrate innovation and success across the supply chain.

Mark Wadsworth, Senior's Managing Director commented: *"Reaching our 35th anniversary is a proud moment for the business. Our progress has been driven by continuous investment and by the strong relationships we have built across the industry. As we look to the future, our focus remains on supporting customers with more sustainable products, transparent data and ongoing improvements to our manufacturing capabilities."*

Reducing the environmental impact of its business operations and providing customers with sustainable and efficient aluminium fenestration products remains a core part of Senior's future plans. Most recently, the manufacturer launched its suite of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) which, based around the promise of 'what you see is what you spec', have raised the bar in terms of the level of clarity and accuracy available for aluminium fenestration products.

Senior will be marking its anniversary across its social media channels over the coming months, sharing a series of company milestones and project highlights that showcase the breadth of its work across the commercial, residential and public sectors.

For more information, please visit www.seniorarchitectural.co.uk, or search for Senior Architectural Systems on LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook.



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BEYOND COMPLIANCE: HOW MANUFACTURERS CAN TURN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL VALUE INTO COMMERCIAL RELEVANCE

As an early adopter of Made in Britain's ESV Certification, BOAL Extrusion UK shows how responsible action becomes more valuable when customers can see, understand and use the evidence behind it.

British manufacturers already create environmental and social value. They employ and train people, support local suppliers, reduce waste and improve energy efficiency. Yet when customers or procurement teams ask for evidence, many businesses still struggle to present one clear picture.

Customers increasingly want to know not only whether a component meets its technical specification, but also how it was made, where it was sourced and what wider impact sits behind it. The question is changing: can manufacturers demonstrate responsibility in a way customers, employees and supply-chain partners can understand and use?

Made in Britain's Environmental & Social Value Certification is informed by the Procurement Act 2023, PPN 002 and the Social Value Model. It covers jobs and skills, community engagement, environmental sustainability, and ethical and local supply chains. Renewed annually and based on self-declared information, ESV does not replace audited standards or contract-specific evidence. It helps manufacturers connect existing activity, identify gaps and communicate their contribution.

It also includes a more energy-efficient billet oven, plant-based cutting fluid, 100 per cent renewable electricity and less than one per cent non-aluminium waste sent to landfill.

BOAL also maintains links with local colleges and places importance on fair pay, safe working conditions and long-term development. Its ISO 45001 and ISO 14001-certified management systems provide independently certified structures for health and safety and environmental management. ESV does not replace those standards; it connects their activity to a wider social and environmental context.

Support for Falcon Support Services, work with Co-Treatment to plant 350 native trees and efforts to reduce the carbon impact of the 2026 ALFED Annual Dinner show how partnerships can extend impact beyond the factory gate.



BOAL UK Ltd achieved ESV Certification in November 2025, within months of its launch. The attraction was not another badge, but the opportunity to connect work already taking place across procurement, engineering, production, sales, health and safety, employment and community engagement.

"Many manufacturers are already creating meaningful environmental and social value," says Emma Swann, Managing Director of BOAL Extrusion UK. "The challenge is to make it visible, support it with evidence and make it part of everyday decision-making."

For BOAL, this reflects a long-standing Local4Local approach. The company provides die-design support, extrudes and processes aluminium in Leicestershire for UK customers, while employing local people and supporting skills development.

In practice, this includes BLUE by BOAL aluminium with at least 65 per cent recycled content or a low-carbon footprint of 4 kg CO₂e per kilogram of aluminium or less.

"Demonstrating real-world Social Value is becoming increasingly important in both public and private sector contracts, particularly since the Procurement Act 2023," says John Pearce, CEO of Made in Britain. "The Environmental & Social Value (ESV) Certification is designed to help bring UK buyers and sellers closer together, connecting the mutual interest in supporting local jobs, skills, communities, environmental sustainability, and ethical supply chains. Many Made in Britain companies like BOAL Extrusion are showing exactly the kind of positive social impact that buyers and communities want to see. BOAL were also one of the first Made in Britain companies to become ESV Certified, highlighting its leadership in producing and promoting 'good growth' that is better for people, for businesses and for the natural resources we all rely on."

The businesses best prepared for the future will connect responsible action with credible evidence and meaningful collaboration.

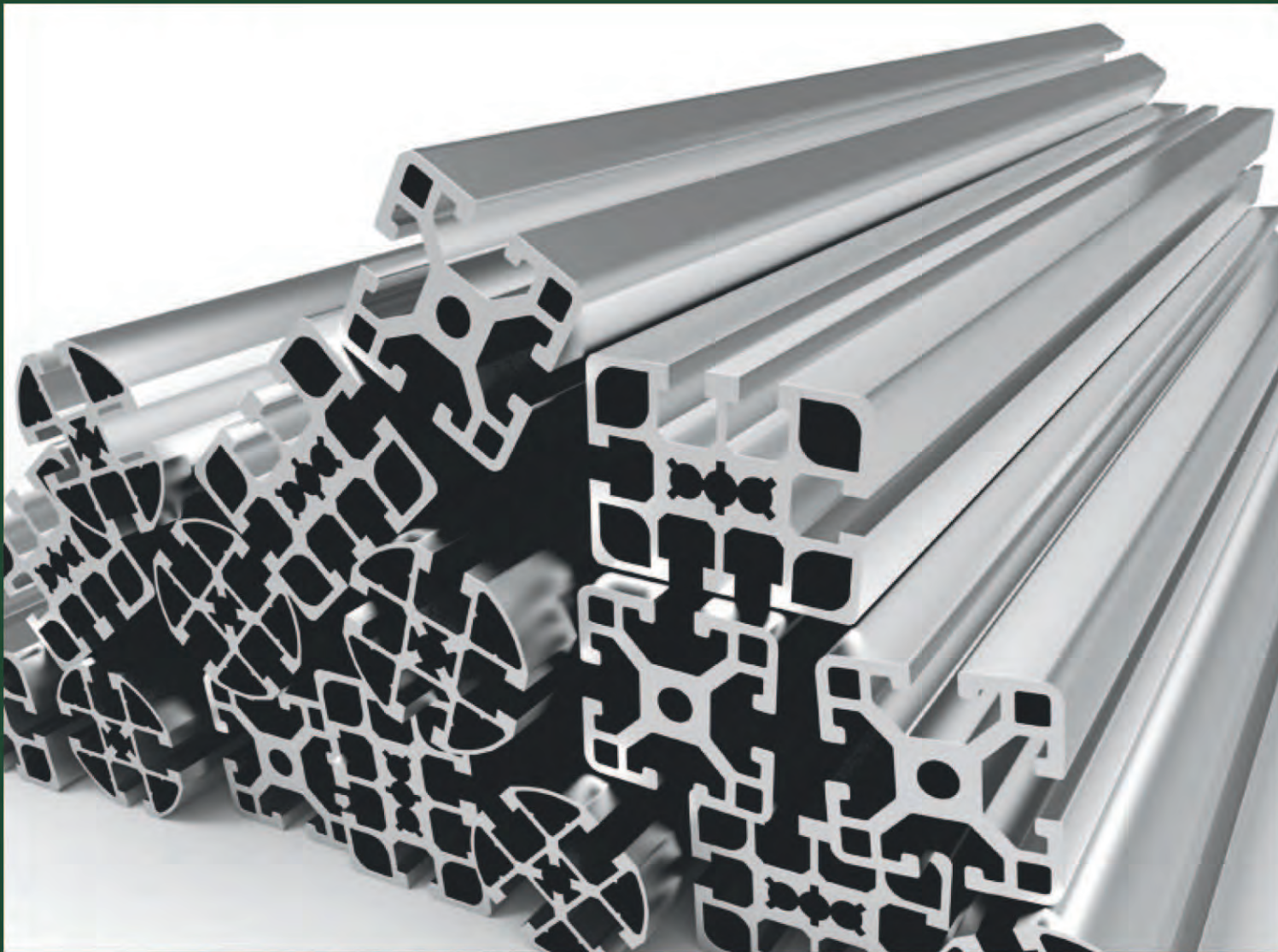


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Find out more →



FRONIUS UK IGNITES THE FUTURE OF WELDING WITH LANDMARK TECHNICAL COMPETENCE CENTRE OPENING IN ROTHERHAM

On Thursday 7th May 2026, the Aluminium Federation (ALFED) were pleased to attend the official opening of the new Fronius UK Technical Competence Centre on the Advanced Manufacturing Park in Catcliffe, Rotherham.

ALFED's Membership Account Executive, Sophie Allen, and Marketing and Communications Executive, Emily Foster, joined industry leaders, partners, and customers to celebrate the launch of this state-of-the-art welding technology facility, strategically located in South Yorkshire.



The day began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by networking over breakfast, before opening the doors to a full programme of live demonstrations, hands-on experiences, and technical insights. Visitors explored the latest in welding innovation, including advanced MIG/MAG systems such as the TPS/i and Fortis, the Fronius Mobile Cobot Welding System, and a wide range of TIG, multiprocess, and MMA equipment. Attendees also experienced the Ignis Battery for off-grid welding and took part in the interactive Welding Simulator Showdown.

Throughout the event, Fronius' Sales, Service, and Application Engineering teams showcased the centre's capabilities, highlighting its role in delivering bespoke welding trials, technical training, servicing, and rapid troubleshooting support. Experts from Fronius Solar & Energy were also on hand to discuss energy optimisation and sustainable solutions for manufacturers.

The new facility represents a significant investment in the UK's advanced manufacturing sector. Positioned at the heart of the Advanced Manufacturing Park, the centre strengthens Fronius UK's ability to support customers with faster response times, improved access to expertise, and enhanced service capabilities. It complements existing Fronius sites in Milton Keynes and Kilmarnock, further expanding the company's nationwide network.

By establishing a presence in South Yorkshire, Fronius aims to work more closely with fabricators, engineers, and manufacturers, reinforcing its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and long-term performance in welding technology.

Daniel Kastner, Managing Director of Fronius UK, commented: *"We truly love what we do here, and it was fantastic to see the whole team bringing that passion to life for our customers at the opening. A great turnout, energising conversations, and genuine excitement about the local service we can now provide through our growing network of Fronius sites across the UK. I'm proud of what we've built already in recent years, and this is only just the beginning."*

Also commenting on the event, Sophie Allen, Membership Account Executive of ALFED said:

"It was a pleasure to attend the opening of Fronius UK's new Technical Competence Centre and to see first-hand the scale of investment being made in advanced manufacturing in the region. Facilities like this play a vital role in supporting UK industry, offering practical, hands-on solutions and fostering collaboration across the supply chain. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this centre will have on manufacturers, including those within the aluminium sector."

The opening event reflected Fronius' wider mission to be closer to its customers, providing high-quality, responsive support while addressing real-world manufacturing challenges. With its focus on innovation, training, and sustainability, the new centre is set to become a key hub for welding excellence in the UK.

To learn more about Fronius, please visit: www.fronius.com/en-gb/uk



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Michael Horan, CEO of Sherwood Stainless Steel & Aluminium

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BUSINESS BRIEFING & ANNUAL DINNER

Date: 24th September 2026

Venue: Crowne Plaza, Stratford-Upon-Avon

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable evening of elegance, camaraderie, and celebration at the beautiful Crowne Plaza Hotel in Stratford-Upon-Avon. The Annual ALFED Business Briefing is the must-attend event for industry professionals looking to gain valuable insights, connect with peers, and stay ahead in the rapidly evolving aluminium sector.

The exclusive black-tie evening event is more than just a dinner; it's one of the premier networking and social occasions in the aluminium industry calendar. Join fellow leaders, innovators, and visionaries from across the sector for an evening of fine dining, inspiring conversation, and celebration of the achievements that continue to shape the aluminium industry.

Book Now: www.alfed.org.uk/event/2026-alfed-annual-dinner/



WOMEN WITH METAL

Date: 17th September 2026

Venue: Eastside Rooms, Birmingham

Expect a full day of engaging keynote talks, interactive workshops, expert panels, and high-impact networking opportunities designed to:

- Build confidence and capability through practical insights and cutting-edge industry knowledge
- Expand professional networks with peers, mentors, and potential collaborators
- Champion diversity, inclusion and leadership across sectors where women have historically been under-represented.

Book Now: www.alfed.org.uk/event/2026-women-with-metal-conference/



ALUMINIUM 2026

Date: 6th - 8th October 2026

Venue: Messe Düsseldorf, Germany - Halls 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7a

Join over 800 exhibitors and 20,000+ trade visitors from 100 nations at the world's leading trade fair for the aluminium industry - a unique hub of expertise, innovation and decision-making power. A carefully curated programme of expert talks, industry awards and themed pavilions adds depth and focus.

Whether you are exploring advances in primary production, recycling technologies, surface treatment or downstream applications: ALUMINIUM 2026 offers the insights and connections to drive your business forward.

Register Now: www.alfed.org.uk/event/aluminium-2026/



UK METALS EXPO 2026

Date: 4th - 5th November 2026

Venue: Hall 4, NEC Birmingham

UK Metals Expo 2026 is the UK's leading trade event for the metals industry, bringing together producers, fabricators, engineers, manufacturers, buyers, and suppliers under one roof. Discover the latest technologies, attend expert-led seminars, and network with key industry professionals.

ALFED Members: Enjoy a 20% discount on your exhibition stand - remember to mention your membership when booking.

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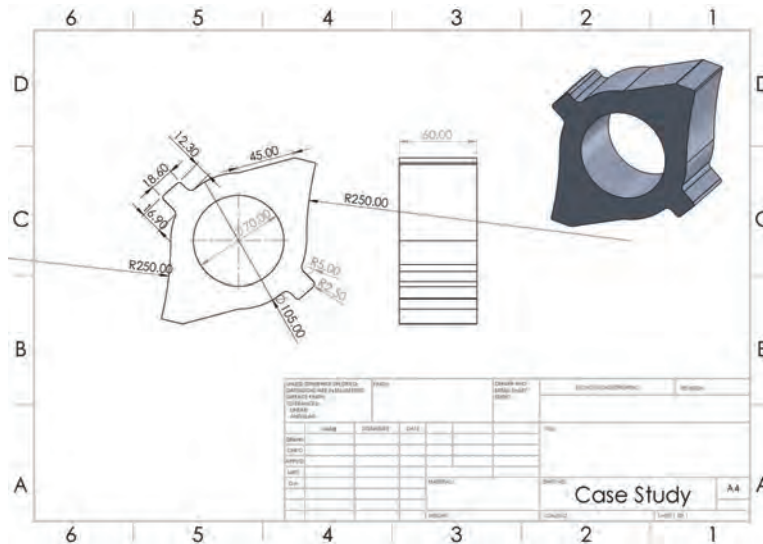
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EDMO CASE STUDY: REVOLUTIONISING PRODUCTION FOR A DEFENCE SECTOR CLIENT

A leading defence client approached Edmo Limited with a tough challenge: they needed to quadruple their annual production to keep up with rising demand. Their current manufacturing process for a key part was slowing things down, so they needed a new approach. This case study shows how Edmo's expertise in custom aluminium extrusions offered a game-changing solution that cut machining time and costs while maintaining top quality.



Conclusion

This project demonstrates the power of custom aluminium extrusions. By working with Edmo, the client solved a major production bottleneck and gained a strong competitive edge. Edmo's teamwork and deep knowledge of materials and extrusion technology created a solution that was both innovative and effective. To learn more about how Edmo can transform your manufacturing, visit edmolimited.co.uk.



The Challenge: A Production Bottleneck

The client's component was typically machined from a solid block of aerospace-grade aluminium alloy, which took about 11 hours per piece. Since they needed to produce four times as many parts, this method just wouldn't work anymore. They had to choose between costly new machines or a smarter manufacturing process. The real challenge was to boost production quickly without sacrificing the strict specs and tight tolerances needed for defence use.

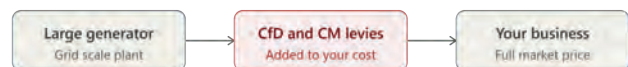
The Solution: A Bespoke Extruded Profile

Edmo's technical team collaborated closely with the client to develop a bespoke extruded aluminium profile. This innovative approach involved designing a custom profile that closely matched the final component's final shape. By extruding the aluminium into this near-net component, the amount of machining required was drastically reduced. Edmo also worked with the client to identify the optimal mechanical properties required, ensuring the material was perfectly suited for high-speed machining while still meeting the stringent requirements of the defence industry specification.

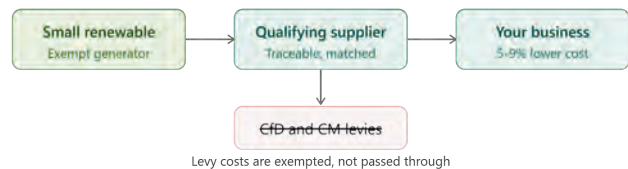
The Results: A Step Change in Production Efficiency

Using Edmo's custom extruded profile completely changed the client's production. Machining time dropped from 11 hours to a fraction of that, saving thousands of machining hours and cutting costs significantly. The boost in efficiency is helping the client reach their goal of quadrupling output, securing their position in the supply chain, and improving their market position.

Traditional supply path



P442 supply path



Check your next supply contract explicitly passes on the P442 saving.
Not available alongside CCA or EII scheme discounts.

P442



A modification to the UK's electricity settlement system allows corporate energy consumers to benefit from buying energy from tax exempt, small scale renewable generators via their supplier, making your electricity cost exempt from costs levies such as Contracts for Difference (CFD) and Capacity Market (CM).

By sourcing traceable, renewable energy produced by small scale generators your cost saving will typically be between 5-9% vs market price.

This opportunity isn't available for those businesses already receiving discounts from CCA or EII Schemes, but will provide welcome relief for companies that have been missed off the eligibility for these industry schemes.

What do you need to do to get the benefit? It's quite simple for once! Just make sure your next electricity supply contract passes on the P442 savings, most traditional suppliers source their energy from larger generators whose electricity doesn't qualify, and some suppliers that are sourcing energy from qualifying generators don't yet pass on the saving. If you would like to know more or would like some assistance, please email hello@avails.co.uk.

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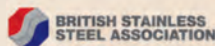


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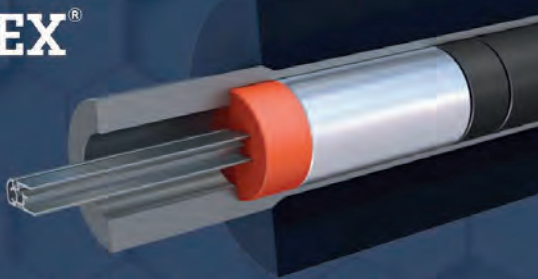
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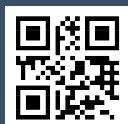


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WHY RELIABLE TESTING MATTERS MORE THAN EVER IN ALUMINIUM MANUFACTURING

Most quality verification problems in aluminium manufacturing are not caused by catastrophic failures. More often, they begin with small inefficiencies that gradually become accepted as normal.

A delayed chemistry result holds production.

Inconsistent sample preparation creates retesting and investigation work.

Unreliable analytical workflows lead to disruption, scrap, delayed shipments and customer complaints.

Across the UK aluminium industry, manufacturers are under pressure to improve efficiency, maintain output and protect margins. At the same time, customers expect tighter quality standards, greater traceability and faster turnaround times. The growing use of recycled material is also introducing greater variation into production processes.

At Datech Scientific, we work with organisations across the aluminium supply chain, including producers, recyclers, processors, rolling mills, cast houses and component manufacturers. This includes supporting businesses such as Arconic, Novelis, Hydro, Alvalance British Aluminium, Bridgnorth Aluminium and Cosma Castings/Magna, alongside many other manufacturers facing challenges with inconsistent results, delayed material release and increasing retest rates.

Despite operating in different markets, many of the challenges being discussed are remarkably similar:

- Production teams need faster decisions.
- Quality departments need confidence in results.
- Management teams need dependable processes that reduce disruption and protect customer relationships.

Increasingly, quality verification is no longer viewed as simply a laboratory activity. It is a critical operational control point that directly influences production efficiency, material release and confidence in decision-making.

In many cases, underlying issues develop gradually through weaknesses within the workflow itself:

- Worn preparation equipment
- Inconsistent consumables
- Poor representative sampling practices
- Ageing analytical systems without preventative support
- Testing processes that have evolved without standardisation

Individually, these issues may appear manageable. Collectively, they reduce confidence in the data used to make important operational decisions. Failures in sampling, preparation or analytical testing rarely create problems in isolation. The real cost is often hidden in downtime, retesting, investigation time and lost productivity.

This becomes even more important as manufacturers increase their use of recycled aluminium and secondary material streams. While this creates commercial and sustainability benefits, it also increases the need for dependable verification processes.

Interestingly, the organisations achieving the greatest operational consistency are not always those making the largest capital investments. More often, they are businesses focused on reliable workflows, effective sample preparation, well-maintained equipment and responsive technical support.



When analytical workflows operate consistently, the benefits can be significant: faster material release, reduced retesting, lower downtime, improved traceability and greater confidence across production and quality teams.

At Datech Scientific, we continue to support organisations throughout the aluminium sector with practical solutions covering sampling, sample preparation, analytical workflows, calibration and preventative maintenance.

Following discussions with ALFED members around downtime, retesting and workflow reliability, Datech Scientific is opening a limited number of laboratory workflow review visits during 2026. Typically valued at £1,200, these reviews are being offered free of charge to ALFED members.

The reviews are designed to identify avoidable delays, hidden bottlenecks and reliability risks across quality verification processes, from sampling and preparation through to analysis and reporting. In many cases, relatively small changes can produce meaningful improvements in turnaround times, consistency and overall process confidence.

Typical outcomes include reduced downtime, fewer retests, faster material release, improved sample preparation consistency and greater confidence in operational decision-making. Availability is limited and review slots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you would like to improve laboratory operations, explore upgrade opportunities for existing equipment or discuss current challenges, we would be pleased to help.

Please contact service@datech-scientific.co.uk to arrange a workflow review or discuss your requirements further.



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THE COST OF BLINDNESS: WHY REAL-TIME MELT INTELLIGENCE IS BECOMING ESSENTIAL FOR MODERN ALUMINIUM PRODUCTION

Somewhere in a casthouse, an operator is making a decision worth thousands of dollars. The furnace is full and the chemistry is moving. Yet the latest result may describe the melt as it was 20 minutes ago, or there may be no new result for another hour.

Manual sampling creates this reality.

An operator enters the hot zone, takes and casts a sample, transports it to the laboratory and waits. The process is accurate but labour intensive, so samples are often taken every hour or two, or only at critical decision points.

That creates two gaps: the delay before each result and the longer interval between samples.

What operators receive is a series of snapshots. What they need is a trend. A snapshot shows the chemistry at one moment. It cannot show how quickly it is moving, whether it is approaching a limit, or when corrective action will be needed.

During that blind period, a furnace may be held longer. Extra alloy may be added. Primary aluminium or high-grade scrap may be used for dilution. Material may be remelted or downgraded. Operators are protecting quality, but every buffer has a cost.

DTE calls the accumulated cost of those buffers the Cost of Blindness.

Across secondary aluminium production, DTE estimates that closing this information gap can unlock potential value of approximately \$100 to \$400 per tonne. Actual value varies with the process, feedstock, operating practices and decisions taken.

DTE, an Icelandic company, has spent 14 years developing a robust technology designed to eliminate the Cost of Blindness in melting operations. The result is DTE's application of Liquid Phase Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy, or LP LIBS.

LIBS is widely used to analyse solid materials. A laser creates a plasma on the surface, and its emitted light reveals the elements present. Applying this principle accurately to liquid metal is far more difficult. The surface moves, temperatures are extreme and measurements must remain stable as furnace conditions change.

The complete DTE analysis process is automated and takes place directly at the furnace. DTE can analyse molten aluminium with laboratory equivalent analytical performance across main alloying elements, volatile elements and trace elements. From measuring the molten metal to delivering a usable chemistry result, the full cycle is completed in less than 60 seconds, depending on configuration.

For routine process monitoring, no sample needs to be manually taken, cast, transported or prepared, and there is no wait for a laboratory result to return.



Instead of delayed and sparse snapshots, operators receive continuous, consistent information in real time. They can see how chemistry is moving, recognise developing deviations and act while the melt remains controllable.

Today, real time information is increasingly important as aluminium scrap becomes harder and more expensive to use. Clean, high-grade scrap is too valuable to use simply for dilution. With DTE, producers can use more challenging, chemically variable scrap while keeping the melt within required quality limits, preserving cleaner units for where they create more value.

The laboratory remains essential for certification, quality assurance and final verification. DTE does not replace it. It removes the operational information gap between laboratory checks.

This also opens the door to wider digital transformation. Advanced control, optimisation and artificial intelligence depend on trustworthy process data. Oil and gas and chemical producers have used continuous measurements to improve automation for decades. Aluminium production has not had the same visibility into melt chemistry.

Plants need information they can trust while there is still time to act.

The question is no longer how accurate the last sample was. It is how much more efficiently the operation could run with reliable information between laboratory samples.

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Following a successful launch, **Aluminium Outlook** returns in 2027, once again in partnership with ALFED. Combining expert insights, industry networking and a dedicated exhibition, Aluminium Outlook is designed to help businesses navigate change and identify opportunities.

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The Aluminium Outlook Experience Includes:

- Exhibition of innovative products, services and solutions from leading suppliers
- Valuable networking at the welcome drinks reception and conference dinner
- Expert insights on scrap markets, CBAM, policy and key industry developments

Exhibitor bookings, sponsorship opportunities and speaker applications are now open. For more information, contact:

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WHEN SPEED ALONE DOESN'T CUT IT



IMA SCHELLING
GROUP

Rising material costs, energy prices and the drive to improve productivity mean UK aluminium processors must do more with less.

Markus Freuis, Managing Director of IMA Schelling UK, explains why the greatest improvements in productivity often come not from a faster machine, but from understanding the role that cutting plays in overall manufacturing performance.

UK aluminium processors are facing pressure from every direction. Manufacturers must deliver greater flexibility, consistent quality and higher productivity while making the best possible use of labour, materials and production capacity. Every investment has to work harder than ever before, and cutting is a critical part of that process.

It's easy to compare cutting systems by their cutting speed. But productivity is rarely determined by the saw alone. The real value of any investment in cutting lies in the contribution it makes to the wider manufacturing process.

The focus is not only on cutting speed, but also on how the cutting operation reduces handling, shortens idle time and keeps material moving efficiently through subsequent manufacturing stages.

None of this diminishes the importance of optimised, material dependent cutting speed. Quite the opposite. It demonstrates why cutting speed delivers its greatest value when it's supported by precision engineering, efficient material handling and a well-designed manufacturing process.



Precision cutting remains at the heart of every aluminium processing operation because every downstream stage depends on the accuracy and quality of the cut. Every rejected component, damaged surface or burr requiring secondary finishing consumes additional material, machine time and labour, increasing cost long before a finished part leaves the factory. *In today's market, precision is no longer simply a quality measure; it's a productivity measure too.*

Achieving that level of precision requires different engineering solutions for different applications. Heavy aluminium plate requires machine rigidity and stable material support to maintain accuracy, long profiles depend on controlled handling to prevent deflection, and precision components demand consistently clean, burr-free cutting to minimise finishing operations and protect material.



Those application requirements are reflected throughout IMA Schelling UK's aluminium cut to size portfolio. From precision plate cutting saws for standalone operation to fully automated plate cutting cells and high-volume automation solutions, every system is engineered to maximise productivity across the complete cutting operation. Material feeding, handling, labelling, stacking and offcut removal are designed as part of the system, not as separate processes.

Our cutting systems are engineered to deliver far more than an accurate cut. Robust machine construction and powerful digital drives provide the stability and control needed for repeatable precision in continuous production. One example is the IMA Schelling CLEAN-UP function, which removes up to 99.5% of chips from the working area, helping protect finished surfaces, minimise scratches and burrs, reduce cleaning down times and the need for rework and maximise yield from increasingly valuable material.

For many manufacturers, a standalone cutting system is exactly the right solution. As production volumes increase, plate cutting cells and automated handling can remove manual processes, reduce dead time and increase throughput without compromising precision. The objective remains the same: to achieve the greatest possible return from every investment.

The pressures facing UK aluminium manufacturers are unlikely to ease. As a result, the drive for greater efficiency will remain central to investment decisions and long-term competitiveness. In our experience, the greatest long-term value comes from cutting solutions that strengthen the performance of the entire manufacturing operation.



24 September 2026 | ALFED Business Briefing

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ALFED LAUNCHES NEW STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FRAMEWORK AT HOUSE OF LORDS RECEPTION

The Aluminium Federation (ALFED) welcomed more than 80 members, parliamentarians and industry representatives to the House of Lords on Tuesday 2nd June, for its annual reception, where it formally launched its new Positions & Strategic Priorities Framework (2026-2027).

Hosted by Lord John Horam, the event brought together stakeholders from across the UK aluminium value chain, alongside the Minister for Industry, Chris McDonald MP, and Antonia Bance MP, to discuss the future of the UK aluminium industry and its growing strategic importance to the UK economy.

The reception provided an opportunity to highlight both the challenges and opportunities facing the sector, while reinforcing aluminium's increasingly important role in industrial strategy, defence, circularity, infrastructure, transport and future manufacturing growth.

A Unified Industry Framework

As part of the event, ALFED formally launched its new Positions & Strategic Priorities Framework, developed in consultation with members and designed to provide a clear and unified direction for industry advocacy, engagement and policy development.

The framework focuses on six core priorities:

- Energy competitiveness and industrial viability
- Circularity, recycling and retention of material value within the UK
- Strengthening domestic processing and midstream manufacturing capability
- Trade and carbon policy alignment
- Supply chain resilience and defence readiness
- The continued development of ALFED's Sector Groups and Trade Committee as evidence-led forums for industry representation

At the heart of the framework is a clear ambition to create the conditions necessary for investment, innovation and long-term competitiveness, ensuring the UK captures greater value from aluminium throughout the domestic supply chain.



Government Recognition of Aluminium's Strategic Importance

One of the strongest themes to emerge from the event was the growing recognition within Government of aluminium's strategic role within the UK economy.

In his keynote address, Chris McDonald MP described aluminium as both a critical mineral and growth material, highlighting its importance across advanced manufacturing, aerospace, automotive, renewable energy and defence supply chains.



The Minister also spoke about the Government's ambitions to improve industrial competitiveness, support energy-intensive industries and strengthen domestic processing capability. He highlighted the work of the Metal Circularity Group and the importance of increasing recycling, retaining material value within the UK and creating stronger domestic supply chains.

Antonia Bance MP echoed these themes, highlighting the concentration of aluminium businesses operating across the West Midlands and their contribution to electric vehicles, construction, renewable technologies and defence. She welcomed recent measures to improve industrial competitiveness and encouraged businesses to continue engaging directly with policymakers to ensure future policies support UK manufacturing growth.

Together, these contributions demonstrated strong alignment with many of the priorities outlined within ALFED's new framework.

Demonstrating the Value of UK Aluminium

The framework also reinforces the significant contribution made by the UK aluminium industry.

Analysis commissioned by ALFED from the Fraser of Allander Institute found that the sector supports more than 108,000 jobs and contributes approximately £9.4 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA) to the UK economy.

These figures underline the importance of ensuring aluminium remains central to future industrial strategy, critical materials policy, net zero delivery and manufacturing growth.

Looking Ahead

The House of Lords Reception marked an important milestone for ALFED and the wider aluminium industry. With a clear set of priorities now established and increasing engagement from policymakers, the Federation will continue working closely with members, Government departments and strategic partners to ensure aluminium is recognised as a critical enabler of UK industrial growth, resilience and competitiveness.

Members are encouraged to review the Positions & Strategic Priorities Framework and continue contributing through ALFED's Sector Groups, Trade Committee and wider engagement activities.

The strength of ALFED's voice depends on the expertise, insight and participation of its members, and together we can continue building a stronger future for UK aluminium.

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