

A Note from the Chairman

Des Fussey

I write this short note with fond memories of my 40 years establishing fussey engineering into the company it is today and do hope that all clients and associates in the industry reflect on using our company's services with the same fond memories.

My initial business life stems from a managerial role in the frozen food industry for Salversens (a common career path coming from the fishing port of Grimsby), who have been my only employer to date. I would still thank them for their training which was impeccable, the company moved me between new cold store plants in Dundee and Droitwich to establish them, I eventually left Salversens at 25 but their training and development of me as a young man made good foundations in preparing me for the trials and tribulations involved in setting up and running my own company.

Initially I established fussey engineering back in 1972, working alone for the first year as work picked up I employed local staff and with a small work force we concentrated on local Humberside projects, partaking in projects that main steelwork contractors found too small to be of any interest. As the workforce grew we moved into larger rented workshops and then in 1992 after 20 years in the making we built our own facilities on Lancaster Approach where we remain to this day.

We developed into a nationwide company partially through the fragmentation of large companies and the client based contacts moving nationwide that helped as they moved on in their individual careers they took the Fussey Engineering name with them, I like to think that such contacts took our company with them because of the reputation we had built for getting works pushed through on tight deadlines successfully with immediate response when required. We still owe many clients a great deal of thanks for continuing to pick up the phone and let us help them out. Particularly in the very early days the staff of Peter Birse, as he was then showed a lot of appreciation in our attitude and approach to work that set us off on the road to serving numerous civil and construction industries throughout the UK.

I also like to think that our break through into nationwide works stems in part from my persistence in moving with the times especially with technology. By way of example one of the first major London projects we were ever awarded was partly because we had purchased a fax machine (younger readers would recognise this only as the early e mail) which allowed drawings to be forwarded quicker and beat the post and get things to site quicker than would have normally been achievable. I have tried to keep this ethos running through the company as we expanded over the past 40 years and have always been a believer in evolve or get left behind. With this in mind I realised as I approach my late 60's that perhaps even I needed replacing with a younger product and being lucky enough to have 3 Sons and a daughter among other close family members and a competent management team who believe in the company as much as I ever did, I have now been able to take a back seat and let the company continue in the hands of the second and third generations that I am lucky enough to have working for me. I am however always contactable I have worked too hard to create a company which the industry trusts with all kinds of steelwork project big and small to simply remove myself completely and as such I still feel the responsibility of ensuring this is maintained and invite any comments – good and bad from our clients direct to me if necessary so I can keep the next generation in check and ensure my work ethics and client base are kept as strong as ever.

For now I leave you in the capable hands of the rest of the team who I am sure you are all aware of and trust they look after you all as I have tried to do over the past 40 years

All the best in all your endeavors

Des Fussey

Chairman, Fussey Engineering