



VBRA

c o m m e r c i a l



WELCOME TO THE SUMMER EDITION OF THE VBRA MAGAZINE

It has been another busy and productive year for the VBRA and the commercial vehicle repair and body building sectors. As we end the summer, it is great to reflect on the continued activity across our industry and the work being undertaken by our members, committees and partners.

I am delighted to welcome Shaun Gill, who has been nominated as the new Chairperson of the VBRA Body Builder Committee. Shaun brings with him a wealth of engineering experience and valuable industry knowledge, and I look forward to working closely with him as we continue to strengthen the voice and representation of our Body Builder members.

We are also pleased to welcome Paul Sewell, our new Northern Business Manager, to the VBRA team. Paul will play an important role in supporting our growing membership and strengthening our presence and engagement with members across the North.

This edition also gives us the opportunity to celebrate a very special milestone – Gerry Braddock's 80th birthday. Gerry, the VBRA Elite Standard Manager has made an enormous contribution to our industry over many years, and it is a pleasure to recognise his achievements and celebrate this important occasion with him.

Looking ahead, we are currently planning the remainder of our VBRA Commercial and Body Builder Committee meetings, alongside our programme of VBRA events for 2027. We are excited about what is to come and will be sharing further details with members soon.

A special thank you also goes to Renault Trucks Warwick for hosting our 2026 Spring/Summer meetings and for their continued support of the VBRA.

Finally, I would like to thank all our members, committee members, partners and supporters for your continued involvement, commitment and contribution to the VBRA. Your engagement is fundamental to everything we do, and together we continue to strengthen our industry and make a positive difference to its future.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the magazine.

Thomas Hudd
Head of VBRA



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPAIR

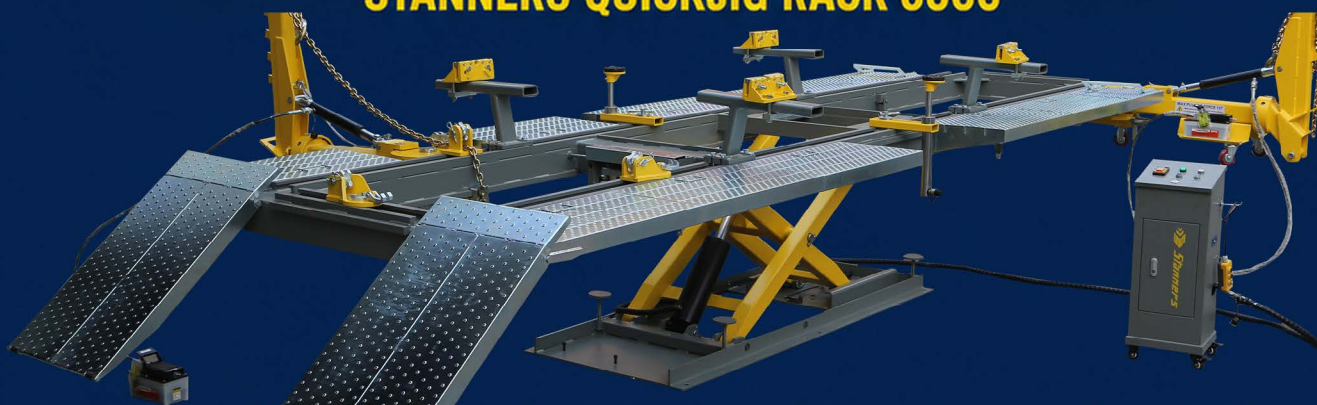
STARTS WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT



Heavy-Duty Chassis Straightening
& Induction Heating Solutions

NATIONWIDE SALES, SERVICE & SUPPORT

STANNERS QUICKJIG RACK 6000



- ✓ 6 Metre Drive-On Chassis Repair Bench
- ✓ 10 Ton Pulling Force
- ✓ 360° Pulling Tower
- ✓ 4000kg Lifting Capacity
- ✓ Ideal For Commercial Vehicle Chassis Repairs



i13 INDUCTION HEATING

- ✓ No Open Flame
- ✓ Fast Component Removal
- ✓ Reduced Repair Times
- ✓ Heavy Vehicle Applications
- ✓ Workshop Safe Heating Technology



FAST REMOVAL OF SEIZED COMPONENTS



IDEAL FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPAIRS





AUTOSOFT COMMERCIAL

COMPLETE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE MANAGEMENT



From First Booking to Final Delivery
We Manage the Entire Commercial Vehicle Lifecycle

The Commercial Vehicle
Management System Built
Around Your Business

Commercial
Estimating

Real Time
Approvals

Bespoke
Workflows

Native
Cloud

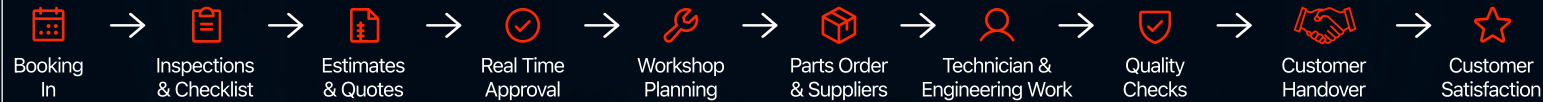
Engineering
Focused

Fleet
Integrated

AI Driven
Insights

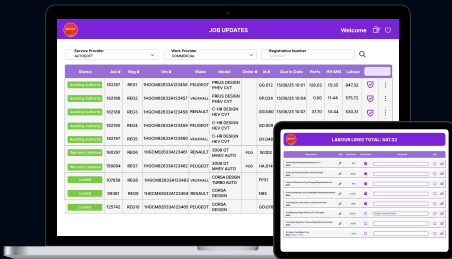
Forever Adapting
Forever Evolving

THE COMPLETE COMMERCIAL LIFECYCLE



REAL TIME ESTIMATE APPROVAL WITH GENESIS

- ✓ Instant Estimate Approval
- ✓ Live Updates & Progress Tracking
- ✓ Images & Documents
- ✓ Line-by-Line Estimate Approvals
- ✓ Direct Communication
- ✓ Full Transparency For Customers

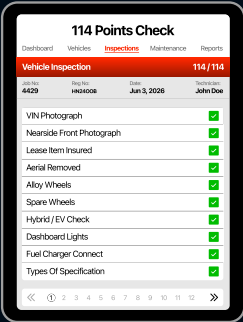


COMMERCIAL ESTIMATING EXAMPLE

Job No: 4429		Reg: HN2400B		Make: MASSEY FERGUSON TRACTOR	
Description:	Labour Hrs	Parts	VAT	Total	
SUBFRAME FABRICATION & MOUNTING TO CHASSIS	18:00	£1,600.00	£320.00	£1,920.00	
TOWING EYES	05:30	£700.00	£140.00	£840.00	
OUTRIGGERS	03:00	£400.00	£80.00	£480.00	
DRIVELINE	01:00	£2,000.00	£400.00	£2,400.00	
CONTINGENCY	02:30	£2,500.00	£500.00	£3,000.00	
SPECIALIST CHARGES (Galvanizing, Delivery, etc.)	----	£300.00	£60.00	£360.00	
Total Excluding VAT: £7,500.00		VAT @20%: £1,500.00		Total Including VAT: £9,000.00	

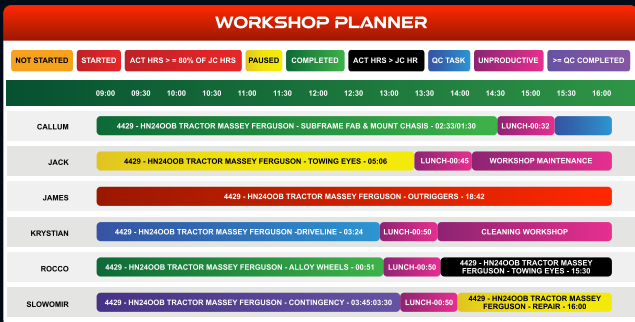
SPECIALIST CHECKLIST

- ✓ 114-Point Inspections
- ✓ 300-Point Engineering Inspection
- ✓ Maintenance Checklist
- ✓ PDI Workflows
- ✓ Compliance Inspections
- ✓ Bespoke Customer Checklists & Workflows Available On Request



WORKSHOP & ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Live Job Progress
- ✓ Technician Scheduling
- ✓ Engineering Operations
- ✓ Fabrication Management
- ✓ Labour Tracking
- ✓ Bottleneck Identification
- ✓ Live Workshop Dashboard
- ✓ Multi-site Visibility



PARTS ORDERING & SUPPLIER MANAGEMENT

01/06/2026		Parts Order No: HN24008		By: Rohit Shah	
Parts Description		Qty	Supplier	Status	
Driveline Prop Bolts		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
Consumables		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
Slip Shaft 1509mm		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
Mid Shaft 1020mm		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
Double Mid Shaft 1415mm		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
Nuts & Bolts For Subframe, Chassis, Body		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	
3 Rear Crossmember		1	Commercial Parts Supplier	Ordered	

QUALITY CONTROL & FINAL CHECKS

- ✓ Digital Sign-Off
- ✓ Defect Management
- ✓ Photographic Evidence
- ✓ Full Transparency



FLEET & CUSTOMER BENEFITS

- ✓ Reduce Downtime
- ✓ Better Cost Control
- ✓ Full Visibility
- ✓ Higher Compliance
- ✓ Stronger Communication
- ✓ Happier Customers
- ✓ Data Driven Decisions
- ✓ Greater Profitability



" AutoSoft gives us complete confidence and visibility across our entire fleet. "

BUILT FOR THE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SECTOR



TRUCKS &
RIGIDS



HGVs &
TRAILERS



VANS &
LVCS



REFRIGERATED
VEHICLES



TANKERS
& BULKERS



PLANT & MACHINERY
TRANSPORT



MUNICIPAL
VEHICLES



SPECIAL BUILDS
& CONVERSIONS

CLOUD-BASED
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

SECURE
COMPLIANT

AI-POWERED
INSIGHTS

FULLY
INTEGRATED

FOREVER ADAPTING
TO YOUR BUSINESS

One System. Every Department.
Complete Control.

SEE AUTOSOFT COMMERCIAL IN ACTION
www.autosoft.co.uk

TRUSTED AERODYNAMIC SOLUTIONS FOR THE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INDUSTRY

For over 60 years, Hilton Docker has delivered aerodynamic products and vehicle solutions to the commercial vehicle industry as a trusted UK manufacturer of GRP products. For the past 40 years, the company has supported the Vehicle Builders & Repairers Association (VBRA), helping it stay aligned with current industry requirements and developments.

Its reputation is built on innovation, engineering expertise, reliability and customer service, helping vehicle manufacturers, body builders, repairers and fleet operators improve efficiency while reducing environmental impact.

REDUCING COSTS, LOWERING EMISSIONS, IMPROVING EFFICIENCY.

As transport operators face increasing pressure to improve efficiency and meet sustainability targets, Hilton Docker continues to deliver proven aerodynamic solutions that help fleets:

- Reduce fuel consumption
- Lower CO2 emissions
- Improve vehicle performance
- Reduce operating costs
- Support environmental and sustainability objectives

Our aerodynamic products are designed and manufactured to reduce drag, improving fuel economy and helping operators lower emissions.

CAD DRIVEN DESIGN & ENGINEERING

Using advanced CAD technology and decades of industry experience, we develop solutions tailored to the evolving needs of the commercial vehicle market.

Our design-led approach provides:

- Precision-engineered products developed in our in-house pattern shop
- Optimised aerodynamic performance
- Bespoke vehicle solutions
- Rapid prototyping and development
- Seamless integration with vehicle body designs

BESPOKE SOLUTIONS BUILT AROUND CUSTOMER REQUIREMENTS

Every vehicle application is different.

Hilton Docker works closely with manufacturers, body builders and operators to develop bespoke aerodynamic solutions that deliver performance and value.

Whether supporting a single specialist vehicle or a national fleet programme, we provide tailored solutions engineered to perform.

CONSISTENT QUALITY AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

As an established GRP manufacturer, Hilton Docker is recognised throughout the industry for:

- Exceptional product quality
- Robust manufacturing standards
- Reliable long-term performance
- Technical expertise
- Fast, responsive customer support

FAST TURNAROUND, DEPENDABLE SERVICE

We understand that vehicle downtime costs money.

Our efficient design, manufacturing and supply processes ensure customers receive:

- Rapid quotations
- Fast lead times
- Responsive technical support
- Reliable delivery schedules

PROVEN PERFORMANCE, TRUSTED PARTNERSHIP

For over 60 years, Hilton Docker has supported the commercial vehicle industry with engineered aerodynamic solutions that help improve efficiency, reduce fuel consumption and lower emissions.

Contact us today to discuss your next project.

Website: www.hiltondoc.co.uk

Telephone: 01706 379358

Email: enquiries@hiltondoc.co.uk

SQUARE4 LIMITED

In a world of growing complexity, our focus is to cut through the clutter and create support that is tailored to your needs, avoiding the pitfalls of generic services that deliver more of what you don't need and less of what you do. With over 20 years' experience in commercial fleet, we have a strong foundation in working with vehicles right across the commercial fleet profile. We recognize the importance of handling commercial fleet differently to car fleets. We have partnered with Akzo Nobel coatings to ensure our customers receive the best results using their superior refinishing products and vast experience and knowledge in the commercial fleet sector.

SERVICES THAT DELIVER

With 6 key service pillars, we make it easy for you to choose

Repair Management Reducing key to key repair times for vehicle accident repair.	Repaint & Refurbishment End to end service for vehicle refurbishment and fleet rebranding.	End of Lease Management Support at every stage, from inspection to end of lease vehicle return.
Salvage & Disposal From assistance with salvage parts to end of life vehicle disposal.	Audit & Reporting Engineering support, fleet inspection and audit reporting	Bespoke Services Delivering a tailored solution that aligns with your specific needs.

Commercial fleet body repair and management can be complex, but that doesn't mean service delivery has to be. We take a stripped back approach and focus on your specific needs. Don't have exactly what you need? No problem. We can build services specific to your needs and objectives.

**** COMING SOON – COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPAIRS – TRIAGED BY CUTTING EDGE AI TECHNOLOGY****

To discuss your requirements please contact

Matt Henson – Matt@square4limited.co.uk

T-07701 037698

Operations – Operations@square4limited.co.uk

T-07521 216790

Website - <https://www.square-4-limited.co.uk/>



TURBO VISION®

NEXA AUTOCOLOR®

TURBO VISION® REACH YOUR VISION



INNOVATIVE COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR PAINT SHOP

TURBO VISION® is an innovative paint platform designed to provide a competitive product offer that meets all of our customers' coating needs. If you're a repairer, builder or special manufacturer, *Turbo Vision* allows you to create the paint systems that best suit your project and priorities, whether your focus is process and product efficiency, high-quality finishes or the most environmentally friendly option.



Reach **INNOVATION** • Reach **OPTIMISATION** • Reach **EXCELLENCE**
For **your** commercial transport coating

www.nexaautocolor.com

Nexa Autocolor and Design and Turbo Vision are registered trademarks of PPG Industries Ohio, Inc.
© 2026 PPG Industries. All rights reserved.

YOUR EV COMMERCIAL VEHICLE CONVERSION PARTNER

DROPSIDE | TIPPER | LUTON | TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT | PANEL VANS



SAFER.
SIMPLER.
SMARTER.
SCALABLE.

EV CONVERSION SPECIALISTS

Built for business and engineered for life, we deliver safe, scalable EV LCV conversions. From our North East facility, we combine safety-led engineering, durable builds and streamlined production, delivering reliable vehicles and supporting fleets and growing businesses moving to electrification.

We are the authorised Farizon dealer for the North East and Farizon's preferred UK conversion partner.



IVECO



FARIZON



FIAT



ISUZU



NISSAN



CALL NOW

01642 607061

cpdbodies.com | sales@cpdbodies.com

CPD BODYBUILDERS OFFICIALLY OPENS FARIZON NORTHEAST FRANCHISE

On 2 September 2026, Paul Sewell, Northern Business Development Manager for VBRA Commercial, was invited to attend the official opening of the Farizon North East franchise, based at the premises of existing VBRA member CPD Bodybuilders.

The event brought together a wide range of local employers, Stockton-on-Tees councillors, industry leaders and advocates from across the commercial vehicle sector, creating an excellent opportunity for networking and discussion.

During the visit, Paul was given a tour of CPD's impressive facilities, witnessing first hand how the company has grown and expanded its operations to deliver outstanding services to the bodybuilding industry. He also had the opportunity to test drive one of Farizon's new electric vans, gaining valuable insight into the latest developments in commercial EV technology.

Following the official opening and site tour, attendees joined an expert panel discussion and podcast recording focused on the future of electric vehicles within the commercial sector. Topics included range anxiety, fleet charging infrastructure, customer mindset shifts, vehicle suitability and the positive long-term impact that EV adoption can have across the industry. The discussions were insightful, engaging and demonstrated the significant opportunities ahead for commercial transport.

It was particularly encouraging to see how VBRA members such as CPD continue to innovate, adapt and evolve in an ever-changing marketplace. Their commitment to embracing new technologies and expanding their capabilities is helping to future-proof their businesses while driving innovation throughout the sector.





HGV WINDSCREEN REPLACED? THE JOB IS NOT FINISHED UNTIL ADAS IS CALIBRATED

Storm Automotive is committed to helping commercial vehicle repairers, coachbuilders, and fleet operators understand the growing importance of ADAS calibration in the HGV sector.

Modern HGVs rely on Advanced Driver Assistance Systems for critical safety functions including emergency braking, lane departure warning, traffic sign recognition, and adaptive cruise control. These systems depend on cameras being precisely aligned.

Following a recent HGV windscreen replacement, Storm technicians discovered the forward facing camera was operating 14 degrees out of calibration. At this level, the vehicle's safety systems could be monitoring the wrong area of the road, creating a significant safety risk.

This is why every calibration begins with a full diagnostic pre scan to establish the health of the vehicle's systems before work starts. Once the windscreen has been replaced, specialist calibration equipment is used to restore the camera to manufacturer specifications, with final verification completed through a comprehensive post scan and calibration certificate.

For commercial vehicle bodyshops, coachbuilders, glass companies, and fleet operators, ADAS calibration is no longer a specialist service. It is an essential part of returning vehicles to the road safely, compliantly, and in line with manufacturer requirements.



As members of the VBRA and proud Elite Members, we believe the industry must continue to raise awareness that a windscreen replacement alone is not a completed repair. If the vehicle has not been calibrated, the job is not finished.

For more information on how Storm Automotive can support VBRA members, Elite Commercial Vehicle Repairers, HGV Bodyshops, Coachbuilders, Fleet Operators, and Glass Providers, contact:

- Kyle Clarke: 07927 336773
- kyle.clarke@stormautoservices.com

Atticus Insurance Brokers Proud Insurance Partner To VBRA Members

Specialist Insurance for vehicle Builders & Repairers

With extensive experience in commercial vehicle risks, we support VBRA members with tailored insurance solutions. From standard cover to complex placements, we work closely with leading insurers to secure the right protection for your business.

Our Services

- Motor Trade Combined
- Management Liability
- Engineering Inspections
- Cyber & Crime Insurance
- Professional Indemnity
- Property Owners
- Employers Liability
- Public & Products Liability
- Excess Layer Insurance



01562 543581



info@atticusinsurance.co.uk



www.atticusinsurance.co.uk





COMMERCIAL VEHICLE HARDWARE

We're Exhibiting at Road Transport Expo

NAEC | Stoneleigh

30 June - 2 July 2026 | Stand Y17

www.albertjagger.co.uk t: 01922 471 000 e: sales@albertjagger.co.uk



Mirka® LEROS-S

Not just for walls and ceilings.

Looking for a more efficient sanding process? Work less, save time, effort and costs, and get an unparalleled finish with the Mirka® LEROS-S. You can pair the Mirka® LEROS-S with our abrasives, such as Abranet®, Abranet® Ace, Abranet® Ace HD, Abralon®, and Mirlon Total®, for unmatched results on commercial vehicles.

For further information or to arrange a demonstration, please contact Customer Services on 01908 866100.



Mirka® LEROS-S - For large surface finishing.

Learn more at www.mirka.co.uk





Thomas Hudd led the panel discussion on a Better Tomorrow for the Commercial Repair World.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPAIR SECTOR AT A CROSSROADS

While much of the industry's focus has centred on the challenges facing passenger vehicle repair, a specialist session was dedicated to a sector facing many of the same pressures - but often at an even greater level of complexity.

Bringing together representatives from repair, accident management and vehicle manufacturing, the Commercial Vehicle session – held in association with the VBRA - explored the realities of repairing modern trucks and heavy commercial vehicles, the growing influence of ADAS and electrification, and the urgent need for industry-wide standards, training and collaboration.

Chaired by Tom Hudd, Head of the Vehicle Body Repair Association (VBRA) and featuring panellists: Matt Henson, Managing Director, Square 4 Ltd; Jason Mole, Commercial Vehicle Managing Director, Steer Automotive Group Ltd; and Steve Oakley, Technical Manager, Scania UK, the discussion highlighted a sector undergoing significant change.

"Commercial vehicles are evolving faster than ever," Tom told delegates. "You thought cars were evolving. Commercial vehicles are evolving equally as fast and they had advanced technologies way before cars."

Those changes are being driven by many of the same factors affecting the wider automotive market, including Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), electrification, alternative powertrains and new vehicle construction methods. However, the panel agreed that the commercial vehicle sector faces additional complexity because of vehicle size, operational demands and the critical role these assets play within businesses.

"The reality is the right repairer has never been so important," Tom said. "But it's also never been so complex."

STAKES ARE HIGH

For fleet operators, the stakes are particularly high. Unlike private motorists, commercial vehicle owners are not simply concerned about repair costs. Every day a vehicle remains off the road represents lost productivity, disrupted operations and additional expense.

"The repairers are under immense pressure to reduce key-to-key times because that asset needs to be on the road, earning hauliers money and customers money," Tom explained.

That pressure creates a balancing act between speed and quality - a theme that ran throughout the discussion.

Matt argued that communication has become one of the most important tools available to those managing commercial vehicle repairs.

Historically, fleet operators were primarily interested in one question: when will the vehicle be returned? Today, however, growing awareness of compliance requirements, operator licence obligations and vehicle technology means many fleets are taking a far greater interest in how repairs are completed.

"One of my biggest things is early and accurate communication," Matt explained. "Tell them early enough. It may not be the good news they want to hear, but tell them early enough so they can plan."

EXPECTATIONS

Managing expectations has become increasingly important because modern repairs frequently involve processes that simply did not exist a decade ago.

ADAS calibration was repeatedly highlighted as one of the biggest examples. Even routine repairs such as windscreen replacements can now require calibration procedures before a vehicle can safely return to service.

"If it's had a front-end impact, if it's had a windscreen or side cameras, anything like that, I always communicate at the earliest opportunity that you're going to have to have the ADAS reset," Matt said.

The challenge is compounded by growing vehicle complexity.

According to Steve the technology found within today's commercial vehicles increasingly mirrors - and in some cases exceeds - that found in passenger cars.

"If they're not repaired correctly, they simply won't work," Steve warned when discussing ADAS systems. "And we see that often."

METHODS AND DATA

Throughout the session, the panel returned repeatedly to the importance of manufacturer repair methods and technical data.

Unlike passenger vehicle repair, where estimating platforms and repair methods are often readily available, commercial vehicle repairers frequently need to access information directly from manufacturers.

Jason who is also Chair of the VBRA Commercial Vehicle division, explained that obtaining the correct information can be one of the biggest barriers to efficient repairs.

"The methods don't come in a pre-packaged, easily accessible method portal. None of that information is available readily," he said. "So all that information before you can even start repair needs to come in."

The consequences of missing that information can be significant.

Jason highlighted examples where seemingly straightforward repairs become substantially more complex once manufacturer procedures are reviewed. In some cases, repairers may need to remove additional structural components or source specialist parts that were not originally identified during assessment.

"The reality is the right repairer has never been so important. But it's also never been so complex."

- Tom Hudd

HERKULES®

TRUCK™

The **POWER** you can **TRUST**



HERKULES TRUCK™ SYSTEM IS A MULTIPLE AWARD-WINNING, COMPREHENSIVE MEASUREMENT AND REPAIR SOLUTION FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE WORKSHOPS.

OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTOR OF THE HERKULES TRUCK SYSTEM



GARAGE EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS
Unit 1, Block 4 Newlands Avenue,
Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridgend,
Wales, CF31 2DA

mobile: +44 7471 682534
e-mail: sales@garage-equipment-solutions.co.uk
website: www.garageequipmentsolutions.co.uk



CONTACT THE NBRA

Get in Touch With Us

Santis House, Curriers Close,
Charter Avenue Industrial Estate,
Coventry, CV4 8AW

T: 0207 291 9750 ex 3447

E: bodyshops@rmif.co.uk

CONTACT THE TEAM:

Martyn Rowley Executive Director

Tel: +44 (0) 7741 908448

Email: martyn.rowley@rmif.co.uk

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/martyn-rowley-ab350824/

Thomas Hudd Head of VBRA

Mob: 07487 604046

Email: Thomas.Hudd@rmif.co.uk

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/thomas-hudd-bb5b5a67/

Antony Barnes Northern Business Development Manager & Member Support

Mob: 07824 876215

Email: antony.barnes@rmif.co.uk

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/antony-barnes-6115b583/

Gerry Braddock VBRA National Manager, Elite Standard Manager

Mob: 07776-294744

Email: gerry.braddock@rmif.co.uk

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/gerald-gerry-braddock-744443127/

Rachel Meenaghan Business Development (South-West), Events & Marketing Manager

Mob: +44 (0) 7350 356961

Website: nbra.org.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rachel-meenaghan-43b6a368/>

Kyra Hazlehurst-Brooks South East Regional Development Manager

Mob: +44 (0) 777 629 4746

Email: kyra.hazlehurst-brooks@rmif.co.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kameliaj90/>

Paul Sewell Northern Business Development Manager

Mob: 07551153850

Email: paul.sewell@RMIF.co.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/paul-sewell-b3242756/>



VBRA

c o m m e r c i a l

POWERED BY

ON

YX

