



Made in Scotland



New salmon pen order boost

SCOTTISH FISH FARMING COMPANIES OPT FOR FUSION QUALITY

Fusion Marine has won orders worth over £3.5m to supply salmon pens and associated equipment for five major Scottish fish farming companies.

The orders for Lakeland Marine, Lighthouse Caledonia, Mainstream Scotland, Marine Harvest and Scottish Sea Farms highlight the general move by Scottish based fish farming companies to source their aquaculture equipment from Scotland whenever possible.

The order for Lakeland Marine involves Triton 400 salmon pens, split over two deliveries in the spring and late summer of 2010. The extra-strong 100m circumference pens are destined for Lakeland's new exposed fish farming site in the Kilbrannan Sound near Carradale in Kintyre. As well as the pens, the order includes bird net supports and sinker tubes for the nets.

According to Colin Blair of Lakeland Marine, the company selected Fusion Marine Triton pens based on their positive experience using the company's Oceanflex pens over many years.

"These pens from Fusion Marine have provided a safe working platform for our staff whilst providing high standards of stock

security, the all plastic construction has ensured low repair and maintenance costs over many years with minimal deterioration in pen quality," he said.

"High levels of service and a proven track record of delivering on time were also important factors in our decision. We believe the Triton pens will allow us to farm in more exposed locations whilst maintaining or even surpassing all the qualities of the Oceanflex pen."

The order for Lighthouse Caledonia comprises of Oceanflex 90m salmon pens for their Vuia Beag site in West Loch Roag, Lewis.

Further deliveries of Oceanflex pens with a circumference of between 80 and 100m have also been ordered for a number of Lighthouse sites in the Northern and Southern regions of the West Coast and Western Isles.

Brian Floyd, production manager at Lighthouse Caledonia, said: "We have worked with Fusion Marine for many years and are delighted with the quality and service it provides. It is important for us, as a Scottish company, to support Scottish suppliers." The order for Mainstream Scotland comprises a number of new 90m and 100m Oceanflex

pens, as well as the refurbishment of existing ones at farm sites in the Northern Isles.

For Marine Harvest, Triton 450 salmon pens have been delivered to their Marulaig Bay site in South Uist.

Marine Harvest puts stock security as a top priority in its farming operations and the company specifically requested the Triton 450 pens for placement on the most exposed part of its Marulaig Bay site, given the reputation of this type of extra strong salmon pen for withstanding the toughest of conditions.

Meanwhile, Fusion Marine recently refurbished a number of salmon pens for Scottish Sea Farms at a farm site near Scalloway, Shetland. The pens were fully fitted out to the all-plastic Oceanflex standard.

Iain Forbes of Fusion Marine said: "We are delighted to have won these orders, which reinforces the strong relationships that we have forged with our customers. The development and modernisation of these fish farm sites, which will benefit the rural economy of the West of Scotland and Northern Isles, also marks the first important steps in advancing open sea salmon farming, which is vital for the future of the industry."

Supporting the local community

Fusion Marine has been showing its commitment to the local Argyll community by actively supporting a number of worthwhile projects.

This has included the supply of football shirts for local school team Loch Nell FC, and a charity abseil down Oban Cathedral, which raised over £3,000 for the Anthony Nolan Trust.

Fusion Marine has also sponsored a number of fish farming companies over the course of the year to raise funds for their charity events.

And just recently it sponsored rally car team driver and navigator, Shaun Sinclair and Chris Hamill, for this year's Scottish Rally Championship. The pair finished a very creditable sixth place overall in the Championship with their Mitsubishi Lancer, and were top in their class.

Chris Hamill said: "It was a successful season and we would like to thank Fusion Marine for all their support."



The new jetty for Eriska Hotel with a Fusion Recycled Plastic bench in the foreground!

Innovative new jetty design brings real benefits for prestigious Argyll hotel and for Marine Resource Centre

A prestigious Argyll hotel has found an innovative solution for replacing its old and decaying sea pier by installing a new floating jetty made from recycled plastic.

The steel pier at the Five Star Isle of Eriska Hotel near Oban had become increasingly dilapidated in recent years and was suffering from serious rot and corrosion.

Replacing the pier was therefore seen as a priority, given that it formed an essential part of the hotel's operation, providing guests with boat trips and enabling yachts and other visiting craft to tie-up alongside.

Following close consultation with Fusion Marine on the hotel's exact requirements, an individually designed 30m plastic jetty was specially manufactured and installed. Anchored to the shore by a concrete plinth, the jetty rises and falls with the tide ensuring round-the-clock access.

According to Chay Buchanan-Smith, proprietor of the Isle of Eriska Hotel, the innovative design and construction offers several advantages over more traditional pier constructions.

"One problem with the old pier was that of

abrasion caused to boats moored alongside by the metal pillars," he said. "This does not happen with the plastic jetty, which is also much more cost effective as it is tougher and will not corrode. We were particularly attracted to the fact that the structure is made from recycled material."

Meanwhile, Fusion Marine has just installed a new pontoon for the Marine Resource Centre (MRC) at Barcaldine near Oban. The pontoon is 116m long with a 20m hammerhead at the end, and is constructed from environmentally friendly recycled plastic and tough polyethylene (PE).

Iain Forbes of Fusion Marine said: "We have manufactured and installed a number of these pontoons for hotels and estates on the West coast of Scotland. They are a great way of boosting business by attracting yachts and offering guests the option of boat or fishing trips."

"Their versatility means that they can be sited on sloping beaches, with the flexible nature of the jetty enabling it to follow the course of the shoreline and provide a suitable freeboard and access at all states of the tide."



Pen repair and maintenance push in Spain



Fusion Marine received a number of useful enquiries during its recent attendance at the World Fishing Exhibition in Vigo, Spain.

Managing director Stephen Divers and Chris Gallagher, Fusion's Spanish agent and technical support engineer, used the opportunity to meet existing customers and forge relationships with potential new clients.

Fusion Marine is currently placing a major focus in promoting its fish farm pen repair and maintenance services to the Spanish market.

Fusion strikes gold!



Fusion Recycled Plastic recently struck gold after a goldmine in the remote Far Eastern country of Laos ordered surface boards made from recycled plastic to line the floors of mine tunnels.

The recycled plastic boards proved ideal

for the job because of their resistance to corrosive contaminants in the mine workings, which would have made wood unsuitable. Feedback from the mine company on the surface boards has been excellent.



Square pens for Martinique



Fusion Marine has delivered and installed a number of square fish pens for Martinique fish farming company, Aqua XS.

Following initial discussions and farm planning with Aqua XS that began in 2006, the final order for the new square pen fish farming system was received in October 2009.

The move to modernise the island's fish farming industry was seen as vital, particularly since Hurricane Dean had destroyed much of the aquaculture infrastructure in 2007.

It was quickly decided that polyethylene square pens would be the ideal option as this would ease the transition of fish husbandry from the small artisanal wooden fish pens traditionally used by the island's fish farmers.

The contract was completed early in 2010 and involved a full system of 6m and 8m square pens, nets and moorings

installed in groups. Aqua XS insisted on Fusion Marine safety decking on the pens to improve operations and efficiency.

Circular pens have always been traditionally the most popular in the aquaculture industry, principally because of their strength, but the new square pens developed by Fusion Marine are incredibly robust and are suitable for a variety of exposed inshore marine and freshwater sites.

The big advantage of square pens is the ability to form individual units into blocks. Such blocks make the pens an excellent working platform and also help to enhance the intrinsic strength. All pens are supplied with safety decking.

These make ideal juvenile or nursery pens and also for the on-growing of various species including carp and trout, with this latest Caribbean order designed for Cobia and Loup Caraibes

Technical update

Research and development investment brings dividends

Fusion Marine has invested around £150,000 on tooling equipment and development work on the new Triton 400 pen that has been specifically designed for open sea fish farm sites.

One of the new tools will be used in the manufacture of brackets for this new and alternative version of the Triton pen that uses 400mm diameter polyethylene (PE) flotation pipes instead of the traditional 450mm size.

The other tooling developed will aid in the fabrication and installation of anti-slip safety decking on these cages.

One of the benefits of the new system is that it provides farmers looking to refurbish their existing 400mm flotation pipe pens with the option to upgrade to the Triton specification, providing a cost-effective means of modernising their operations.

The extra large three-ring Triton 450 pen has already proved extremely successful for the offshore farming of tuna and salmon. The new Triton 400 version has been developed to provide an alternative specification that can be used in either three or two ring formats.

It will also provide farmers looking to refurbish old 400mm flotation pipe pens with the option to upgrade to durable all plastic pens using their existing pipes, thus minimising capital outlay.

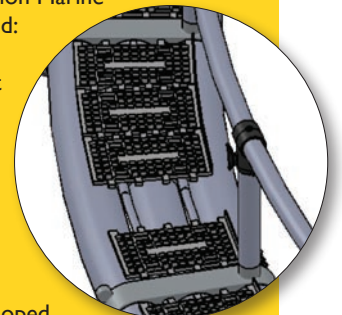
The excellent buoyancy and strength of the Triton range provides a safe and stable working platform aided by heavy gauge handrails. All Triton pens feature anti-slip safety decking, with the handrails and all other fittings constructed from tough and corrosion resistant PE.

Stephen Divers, Fusion Marine managing director, said:

"We have made this significant investment so as to provide fish farmers with a range of options and specifications for the successful Triton pen."

Meanwhile, Fusion Marine has also developed new tooling for use in the manufacture of extra-strong brackets for its range of pontoons. These individually designed plastic pontoons are anchored to the shore and provide mooring for a range of tender craft, often in remote coastal locations.

This more efficient bracket has been specifically designed for new marina pontoons that the company has now just developed.



Technical expertise delivers hydro project

Technical expertise in high volume water piping from Fusion Marine working in alliance with two other Highland based companies has played a key role in the successful completion of a £1.3m hydro-electric project for a remote Inverness-shire estate.

Fusion Marine and Adrian Laycock Ltd, working along with electrical engineer An Cuilinn of Stromeferry, Ross-shire, and civil contractor G S Campbell of Newtonmore, installed 1.8km of 500mm diameter polyethylene pipe for Coignafearn estate near Tomatin as part of a hydro-electric project to keep the estate supplied with heat and power.

The installation was made to replace the estate's dependence on oil for power generation and heating. The pipe links a new dam and reservoir high up on a

mountain burn that then carries the water to an underground generating station lower down.

One of the key features of the work was the butt-fusion welding technique used by Fusion Marine to join the pipe sections. The process means that compared to more conventional steel piping, which consists of a series of joints, PE piping is effectively one continuous length of pipe where the joints are virtually seamless.

The use of PE pipe enabled cheap and rapid installation in a hostile mountain environment, using the technique of butt fusion jointing in a single accessible location, with the pipe being winched up the mountainside in strings up to 500m long. The final jointing between strings was achieved using electro-fusion couplings.

Memorial benches

Fusion Recycled Plastic has received a number of enquiries in recent months for Memorial benches made from recycled plastic.

The benches are much more durable than traditional wooden benches, thus providing a fitting and long-lasting tribute to a loved one.

Students tour Fusion

MSC students from Stirling University's Institute of Aquaculture toured Fusion Marine's production facility at Barcaldine recently so as to gain a greater understanding of the technology used in fish pen manufacture.



Hornet 490 is proving a hit

Fusion Marine's new Hornet 490 workboat is proving extremely popular with fish farmers and dive operators.

The principal attraction of this versatile polyethylene manufactured craft is its robustness, which means that little maintenance is required. It is ideal for drawing alongside floating platforms in heaving seas where the tough hull can cope with the constant abrasion.

One fan of the Hornet 490 is Tony Radcliffe of Oban-based North West Marine, who uses the craft as a tender to support diving operations.

He said: "The tough plastic construction of these boats makes them virtually indestructible. They are also very stable craft."

The principal dimensions of the Hornet are length 4.92m and beam 2.08m. The dry weight of the craft is 420kg.



Fusion Marine helps development of tilapia farming project in Guatemala...



Fusion Marine has played a key role in the successful development of a tilapia farm in a remote part of Guatemala.

The idea for the farm came about four years ago when Fusion Marine's Malta based international consultant, Professor Carmelo Agius, was working on improving shrimp farm technology in Ecuador.

A friend informed him that an attempt by Father Grech, who is a parish priest in the Quebrada Honda area of Guatemala, to encourage impoverished locals to grow tomatoes for export had run into difficulties due to tariffs and taxes. Prof. Agius visited the area and found it to have a suitable river that

could sustain a fish farm.

Physical work on the project began in May 2007. It was built using local builders and Maltese volunteers from the Mission Fund who spent five weeks there in the summer of 2007. The cost of the project is estimated at around €200,000, most of which came from Maltese donations. Fusion Marine supplied technical support and some of the fittings for the farm.

The farm produces about 250 kg of indigenous tilapia every week, which is a huge amount for a landlocked area where fish is a rare treat.

...and another tilapia farm in Ghana!



Fusion Marine has also won an order for a new tilapia farm in Ghana. This will be the first project in this country with vast potential in aquaculture to move away from traditional culture systems to state of the art technology. Fusion marine will supply five pens for the initial period but this is expected to increase substantially. Fish pen culture is currently very limited in the country and utilises very simple technology, with this new project designed to bring innovative technology to the country.

The proposed farm will be located downstream from Akosombo dam on the River Volta. The water is of high quality and the water flow at the proposed farm site is

constant as it is controlled flow through the dam.

The farm is planned for an area where unemployment is high and it is expected to create a substantial number of jobs. It is within easy reach of the main markets of the capital Accra.

The project will start with a production of 200 metric tonnes per annum but the long-term plan is to reach 2,000 tonnes per annum and to diversify into marine species along the Atlantic coastline.

The project will initially purchase fingerlings from commercial hatcheries but within 18 months it is planned to have in house state of the art hatchery to meet the growing fingerling requirements of the project.

Recycled plastic boosts course maintenance programme at Moray Golf Club

One of Scotland's most prestigious golf clubs is reaping the benefits of using environmentally friendly recycled plastic as part of its courses maintenance programme.

Moray Golf Club at Lossiemouth has been using recycled plastic planking supplied by Fusion Recycled Plastic to reinforce sections of the sides of a 700 yard long ditch that cuts

across the course. Anti-slip grooved recycled plastic planks have also been used to form the boardwalks to all of the bridges crossing the ditch and the benches that need to be replaced are all recycled plastic.

The Golf Club is considered to be one of the finest links courses in Scotland, with its old course featuring deep bunkers, undulating gorse lined fairways and smooth fast greens.