

Rubix in the UK acquires West Country Tool Co. Ltd. (WCT)

Rubix in the UK has acquired West Country Tool Co. Ltd (WCT), a leading independent specialist distributor of cutting tools, as part of the Group's network development strategy.

Established in 1974, WCT is a leading value-added supplier of cutting tools and related products across the South of England. The business focuses on indexable carbide tooling and the provision of customer-oriented technical-based solutions, primarily to customers in the precision engineering, aerospace, oil & gas, and automotive sectors.

Based in Newton Abbot, Devon, WCT has 23 employees and generated sales of £7m in the year ending 31 December 2021.

WCT will become part of the Rubix Cutting & Machining Division, retaining its existing branding, whilst becoming 'A Rubix Company'. In joining this division, WCT will enhance the Group's technical capabilities while providing substantial synergies for both organisations in relation to geographic coverage and the breadth and depth of customer offer.

Tim Lloyd, Managing Director of WCT commented:

"This is an exciting time for WCT. Becoming part of the Rubix family provides a unique opportunity to realise our full potential. Our geographical footprint and offering will grow, and sales synergies will emerge instantly for both businesses."

"We are extremely proud of the relationships we have built with our customers and suppliers over many years. As well as continuing to do business with us, they will now benefit from the full access to the greater resources we will enjoy as a key part of Rubix in the UK."

WCT will report into Nigel Banks, Managing Director of Rubix's Services Division in the UK.

Vince McGurk, CEO of Rubix in the UK, Ireland and Iceland commented: *"WCT is a very exciting new member of the Rubix family. It consolidates Rubix's leadership in the cutting tools and machining market and adds a significant presence in the South of England. It adds further knowledge and expertise to our Group and creates immediate opportunities for us all. This is not just a coming together of two businesses with synergies in terms of their products and services, but also of businesses with a passion for the very highest levels of customer service and engineering excellence."*

"WCT will have access to our full product range, and Rubix Group is delighted to provide our customers in the region with access to WCT's cutting tools expertise and product portfolio which builds and extends our existing offer in this key precision engineering sector."

Both businesses would like to express their sincere gratitude to Peter Jevons, the Chairman of WCT who co-founded the business in 1974 for his vision and dedication that have taken the business to this point. Peter Jevons will be taking this opportunity to retire from the business, while Tim Lloyd and Adrian Seymour (Sales Director) will remain in their current roles.

About West Country Tool

West Country Tool Co. Ltd (WCT) is the leading independent cutting tool distributor in the South of England founded by Peter and Marilyn Jevons in 1974. It has a value-added customer-oriented service approach for the supply of cutting tools and industrial products, specialising in the Aerospace and Precision Engineering, Oil & Gas and Automotive sectors. It is based in Newton Abbot in Devon with a workforce of 23 employees and has reported sales of £7m (Y/E Dec 2021). For more information visit: www.wcti.co.uk

About Rubix Group

Rubix Group is Europe's largest supplier of industrial maintenance, repair and overhaul products and services. It was created from the merger of IPH with Brammer in 2017, following the acquisition of Brammer by Advent International.

From around 750 + locations across 22 countries, 8,500 employees help to identify, install and provide a leading range of industrial products and services to more than 20,000 customers. The business had combined sales of €2.4bn in 2020 and is a leading distributor in bearings, transmission and automation, fluid power, machining, assembly, tools and protective equipment.

Key market brands across Europe include: Advanced Industrial Rewinds, Biesheuvel Techniek, Brammer, Brammer Buck & Hickman, CompCare, Deritend, Giner, Hydraflow, Julsa, Kistenpfennig, KJN Automation, Knowlton & Newman, Lerbs, Matara, Matrix, MCA, Minetti, Montalpina, Novotech, Orexad, Peter Campbell Sales, RGR, Robod, Syresa and Zitec. For more information visit: www.rubix.com