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Featured in this Edition...

Building for the Future –
Significant Renovations at
Bedford Facility

Classic Car Coupling
– 1983 Twiflex Coupling
on a 1935 Lagonda

Twiflex Brake Packages

Wichita Clutch 118VM
Plate Brake for Drilling
Rig Topdrive

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Building for the Future



**Newly Renovated
Bedford Facility!**

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Building for the Future – Significant Renovations at Bedford Facility

The site at Bedford became part of the Altra Industrial Motion group at its inception in 2004 during the acquisition of the Colfax group. Since that time Altra has grown and now employs more than 9000 people worldwide.

The Bedford factory has had a presence on this site since 1964 when it was originally a licensee for the “Wichita” brand. Prior to that it was a factory manufacturing agricultural tractors and after that it produced Crossley stationary engines.



Wichita gained its ISO 9001 accreditation in 1992. In 2010 Twiflex production was consolidated into Bedford, then in 2016 the Bibby Grid and Torque production moved to Bedford, followed by Stromag UK being consolidated into the site in 2018.

During the last three years, there have been a series of major renovations taking place at our Altra Bedford facility. It’s been an incredibly challenging, complex but ultimately rewarding process, resulting in a building that gives us a facility that we can be proud of. We believe the newly renovated site gives us the ideal platform to continue our ambitious plans for growth over the next five years.



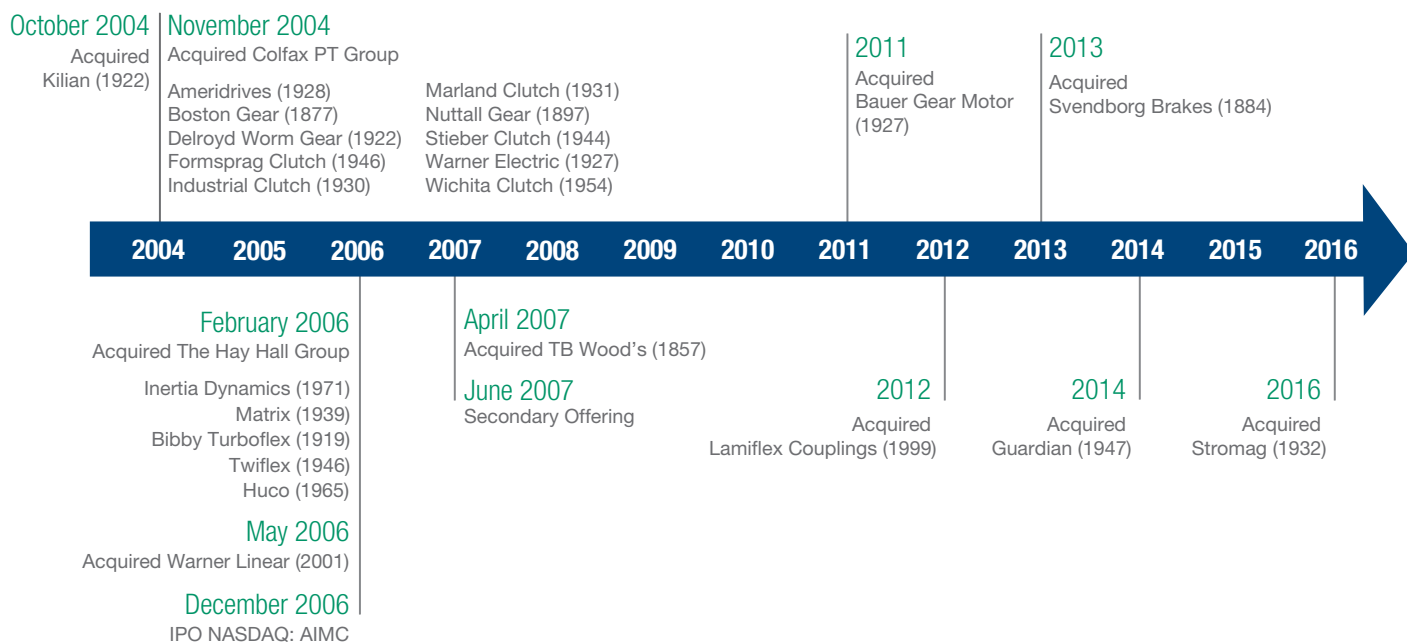
1961



2011



2018



(Indicates year founded)

Building for the Future – Significant Renovations at Bedford Facility Continued

Here are some of the our long serving retired employees standing outside the new meeting rooms that are named after them.



Penny Turvey next to the Turvey room
Financial Controller – 19 years long service



Sarge Basra next to the Basra room
Quality Manager – 44 years long service



Gabby Amodio next to the Amodio room
Production Manager – 49 years long service

Classic Car Coupling – 1983 Twiflex Coupling on a 1935 Lagonda

Lagondas of a similar age featured a 2 litre Crossley engines. Coincidentally, The Bedford works were purchased in 1924 by Crossley Brothers Ltd. who are listed as 'successors to Saunderson Tractor & Implement Co Ltd', and took over production at the site. Crossley were prominent engine manufacturers primarily for industrial use, and their more common horizontal enclosed engines were introduced around 1925, initially two models (1030 & 1050) being available, but the range expanded later (1040, 1060, etc). These are petrol/paraffin engines, usually hopper cooled, and were manufactured at the works of the Saunderson Tractor & Implement Co. Ltd.

The Twiflex coupling enables a soft start for the engine.

The logo for Crossley, featuring the name in a stylized, cursive script with a horizontal line through the middle.



New Compact Hydraulic Brake Packages for Single-Source Convenience

Twiflex, a global leader in innovative braking solutions, has launched a range of compact hydraulic brake packages, which are designed to meet the challenging braking requirements experienced in a wide variety of industrial applications.

The standard brake packages, comprising Twiflex spring applied, hydraulically released caliper brakes and state-of-the-art compact hydraulic power units (Twiflex type LCS), are pre-assembled onto specially designed pedestals for ease of mounting and installation. The brake packages can be further customized to meet specific customers' requirements.

The high-specification hydraulic power unit features a fully-integrated hand pump for manual release of the brake in the event of power failure, pressure gauge and built-in terminal box to simplify the electrical connection.

Key features of the Twiflex hydraulic brake packages include the compact dimensions, addressing applications with limited space available. A wide range of braking force ratings provide superior performance in applications as diverse as elevators, gantry cranes, winches, amusement rides, conveyors, metal processing lines and ski lifts. In addition, the integrated nature of the Twiflex solution ensures component compatibility and optimized performance, while minimizing the installation time and maintenance burden.

The standard brake packages comprise of Twiflex spring applied, hydraulically released caliper brakes and state-of-the-art compact hydraulic power units.

Three different spring applied, hydraulically released brake models are available within the standard Twiflex brake packages. These have nominal braking force ratings ranging from 6.8 kN to 119 kN.

Twiflex, part of Altra Industrial Motion Corporation, specialises in the design, manufacture and supply of advanced braking technologies to deliver engineered solutions that meet the individual demands of original equipment manufacturers and end users alike.

For more information, download P-8454-TF from www.AltraLiterature.com



Wichita Clutch 118VM Plate Brake for Drilling Rig Topdrive

A leading global manufacturer of drilling rigs and oilfield equipment required a topdrive braking solution for a new 750-ton land-based rig. The brake provides dynamic emergency stopping and static holding of the topdrive during drilling operations. The brake needed to be ATEX-certified and had to accommodate high disengaged running speeds while providing a high torque capacity in a compact space envelope.

To meet the customer's requirements, Wichita engineers developed the 118VM brake, a hydraulic pressure applied, single plate unit designed for high-energy dynamic stopping and parking in vertical-shaft mounted applications. It also has the capacity to handle repeated dynamic stops in succession. The 25.2" (640 mm) diameter brake is designed to be installed on the non-driving stub shaft above the topdrive motor and allows for the mounting of a speed encoder on the end of the shaft.

The 118VM is one of the first dynamic plate brakes available to the topdrive market that is certified for ATEX Zone 1 CAT II, Gas B, T3. The robust design is fully-enclosed when fitted with an available cover, a sealed piston holding plate protects against the ingress of dirt and moisture.

The brake features an operating pressure of 140 bar (2030 PSI) which generates 12.0 kNm (8850 lb.ft.) of dynamic torque. With an ambient operating range between -45°C to +55°C (-49°F to 131°F), the 118VM is built to perform in challenging drilling environments.

- Hydraulic pressure applied, single plate brake
- Certified for ATEX Zone 1 CAT II, Gas B, T3
- 140 bar (2030 PSI) operating pressure
- 12.0 kNm (8850 lb.ft.) dynamic torque
- 25.2" (640 mm) diameter
- Fully-enclosed design



For more information, download P-7709-WC from www.AltraLiterature.com



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