

Your UPN magazine

# DESPATCH

Issue 10

Volume 3



## SMARTHUB 2020 VISION



The lease has been signed, the contractors have moved in, and final development work is being undertaken to turn the UPN's 2020 SmartHUB vision into reality.

It's a vision centred on an efficient, modern, purpose developed, hub facility with significant capacity for growth. It's a vision that will be managed by a unique, bespoke, integrated central sortation and cross network IT infrastructure platform.

"These are exciting times for UPN", said David Brown UPN MD, "we are now the only privately owned Pallet Network in the UK,

and we are proud to be taking these big steps forward, big steps that will undoubtedly help all our members to grow their business through our unique network."

Nearly £3 Million is being invested in both infrastructure and IT development ready for this evolution of our Central Hub Operation in Spring 2020, confirming UPN's commitment to growth over the next decade and beyond.

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INSIDE – YOUR UPN 2020 HOLIDAY PLANNER



# SECTOR SPOTLIGHT



## Safer, Smarter, Greener

FORS held its fourth Members' Conference in October with the theme 'Safer, Smarter, Greener'. Attended by 450 delegates, the one-day event at the National Conference Centre in Solihull featured interactive polls and speeches from major industry stakeholders including Highways England, Kier, Michelin and Rexel.

[www.motortransport.co.uk/blog/2019/10/18/safer-smarter-greener-the-theme-at-fourth-annual-fors-conference/](http://www.motortransport.co.uk/blog/2019/10/18/safer-smarter-greener-the-theme-at-fourth-annual-fors-conference/)

## Brexit Updates



Via a dedicated website the Road Haulage Association (RHA) is providing free advice on how Brexit may affect the UK haulage industry.

- How a no deal Brexit may affect the UK haulage industry.
- New customs processes which may come into effect.
- The responsibilities for traders and hauliers in compliance.
- Licensing changes and new requirements after Brexit.
- The changes that may impact driver documentation after Brexit.
- How Brexit may affect your insurance.

[www.atobrexit.co.uk](http://www.atobrexit.co.uk)

The Freight Trade Association is updating its website on an ongoing basis regarding the evolving Brexit situation with really helpful detail

[www.fta.co.uk/international-trade/brexit](http://www.fta.co.uk/international-trade/brexit)



## NETWORK MEMBER NEWS

# SMARTHUB TECHNOLOGY IS HERE

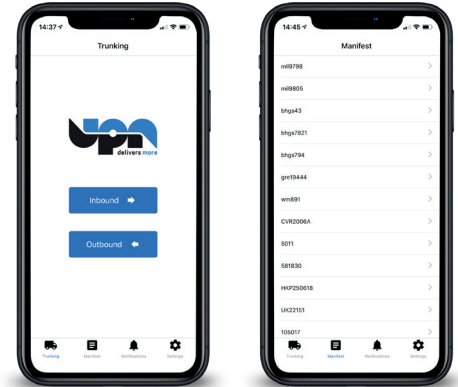
The new UPN "SmartHUB" facility will benefit from the introduction of "SmartHUB" Technology. "SmartHUB" Technology is a bespoke platform created internally by UPN to manage smooth operations across its UK pallet network.

"UPN IT have developed "SmartHUB" in response to requests from our membership for greater support and control across key elements of our nationwide operation," said David Brown - UPN MD,

A "SmartHUB" App monitors and manages all trunks with GPS Tracking of inbound and outbound journeys, In-App Digital manifests, and In-App "On site Guidelines". The app also receives "call in" notification to indicate when on site trunks are ready to be loaded.

"Now all inbound and outbound UPN trunks will be monitored minute by minute, mile by mile, and scheduled in a timely way to ensure synergistic and speedy central sortation and pallet transshipment." Said David Brown, "In the same way that an airport handles flights, UPN will be actively giving member trunks "slots" to smooth flow our central sortation operation for the benefit of all of us."

Integrated with the new App are a range of "SmartHUB" Central Sortation "Tools". An "Arrivals Board" will display real time expected arrivals with indications of late / early arrivals. The board will also have the facility to view vehicle positions on a map. ETAs are calculated based on real time GPS locations and will account for traffic conditions. A "Resource Planning" feature will manage central



staffing levels in line with real time ETAs. Member depots will have tools to book extra inbound vehicles online and to view map positions of outbound trunks in real time.

Further operational management features are planned for integration into "SmartHUB" to help members continually improve local palletised freight distribution services. The already excellent nationwide UPN service will be further improved towards the magical 100% on time delivery performance that is the holy grail for everyone.

## DGG TRANSPORT – OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH UPN IS MOVING FORWARD STRONGLY

Scottish UPN member DGG Transport have recently invested significantly in new fleet and new modern purpose-built facilities.

DGG Transport which serves EH, FK, KY, ML, TD postcodes for UPN now have four artic, eight 18t vehicles, and a small van handling UPN services.

"Business is good", said Chris Tait, Commercial Director "our partnership with UPN is moving forward strongly. It's helping DGG Transport to further develop our own vision for expansion and growth".

A brand new purpose built warehouse has been built on the DGG premises at Uddingston. The warehouse is a big boost to the DGG Transport operation offering safe, secure, cross dock and discharging, and overall a significant increase in general operational efficiency. As well as Pallet Freight distribution, DGG Transport provides UK General Bulk Haulage, Trunking, Temperature controlled and Bespoke Specialised Transportation.



First Class Travel for Palletised Freight




# SEVEN NEW MEMBERS TAKE OUR NETWORK TO NINETY THREE

With the addition over the recent months of seven new members, UPN are pleased to be able to say that our network has never been stronger or more solid. Now the UK's only privately-owned Pallet Network, UPN has ninety-three members the most it's ever had in nearly twenty years as a business.

"In 2019 we've now brought in twelve high calibre new members," commented UPN Managing Director - David Brown, "Its proving to be a fantastic year for UPN as our business is showing record volume growth in advance of our imminent move to our new hub. These new additions will be significant for us as we take our company to the next level."




For over 25 years Nottingham based D&D Transport has been providing a wide range of haulage, warehousing, and storage services to companies in the area. D&D Transport will be handling some LE postcodes.




Dorset based Three-Legged Transport are a diverse business handling single pallet delivery right up to temperature controlled full load shipments. Three-Legged Transport will be handling BH Postcodes.



Southampton based Dependable Logistics provide a full range of transport and logistics services and will be handling some BH and SO postcodes




G & B McCready have over 40 years' experience in the haulage industry. They are located at Newcastle under Lyme by Junction 16 of the M6 and will be handling some CW postcodes



Cross Country Carriers celebrated its 40th anniversary as a business last year and has been providing pallet distribution services since 1978. The Suffolk-based general haulage company has a broad customer base throughout the UK. Cross Country Carriers will be handling some CB and IP postcodes.



Stanton Logistics were established in 2007 and operate from Rotherham. From single ambient pallet loads to full temperature-controlled loads and ambient storage Stanton Logistics have successfully diversified into several logistic sectors. Stanton Logistics will be handling S postcodes



Pallet Plus are based in Colchester and specialize in both palletised freight distribution and dedicated transport. Pallet Plus will be handling CO and some CM postcodes.

## BOW TRUCKFEST SHOWCASE



Truckfest, Europe's largest trucking festival visited Newark in October and prominent with a superb display of newly liveried fleet were leading UPN member – Bow Distribution.

Alongside its pristine new "Bow" and "UPN" liveried unit and trailers with their Elephant, Eagle, and Lion rear door imagery, Bow Distribution were showcasing the UK's first Mercedes Benz Actros with mirror-cam technology replacing mirrors.

aerodynamics, which goes on to improve fuel consumption.

The mirror-cam improves aerodynamics, safety and vehicle handling. The lack of exterior mirrors, along with new rear-edge flaps help to improve the Actros'

The new Bow Distribution fleet additions with the Actros resplendent in UPN livery were captured by Bow driver and expert photographer – Ben Ketteringham with these excellent images reflecting brilliantly the sleek lines of this ground-breaking vehicle.



# OUR ARMED FORCES COVENANT PLEDGE



The Armed Forces Covenant is a nationwide pledge to support military personnel both past and present, as well as their dependents, by treating them with fairness and respect in their communities for serving with their lives. The Covenant promises fair treatment to those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, helping them to gain access to support and services, including new careers. UPN has pledged its support to the Armed Forces Covenant.

By signing this important Covenant UPN are making a formal company commitment to support current and ex-military personnel and their families by recognising the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families can bring to its business. Ex-military personnel are high calibre people with high value transferrable skills, that are ideally suited to transport and logistics.

As a committed Armed Forces employer UPN is actively looking to help ex-military personnel find meaningful careers in

civilian life. In signing the Covenant, we are confirming that we will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Armed Forces Covenant was introduced to highlight the mutual obligations between the nation and its Armed Forces and to recognise that armed forces personnel should expect the support of the nation, society and the government.

[www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/](http://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/)



The scene was set, the Ninth APN (Association of Pallet Networks) Golf Day, the annual competitive gathering of the UK Pallet Networks and their member hauliers. Surely this was UPN's year, as Captain Kevin Nightingales handpicked "First Class Team" assembled to shine on the beautiful Little Aston Club Course in Sutton Coldfield.

## UPN GOLFERS FASHION SUCCESS!

From its humble beginnings in 2010 when the combined member turnout could only fill three tables in the resplendent golf club's function suite this unique event has grown massively. This year the event was buzzing with nearly sixty players and support staff representing all the major networks.

The competition didn't start on the course it was well underway in the breakfast room when old and new faces began to filter in fully decked out in matching team kit or should we say livery. Wardrobe costs must have far exceeded the entry fees. This was a fashion statement that it wasn't just the golf that was there to be won! There had been a few fashion disasters at previous events, so this year a more conservative, low risk approach was clearly apparent from some networks. However, UPN teams stood out superbly in their two-tone dove grey wind cheaters, breaking the mould of the usual black-on-black home bankers. As the morning chill lifted so too did the over jerseys to reveal a nicely cut matching tee shirt reinforced what

many had noted - UPN were undoubtedly the best "liveried" teams out there!

It wasn't the UPN teams' year for golfing awards but that was irrelevant as their unparalleled sartorial elegance across the course dominated the day.



## UPN SPONSOR INAUGURAL FORKLIFT COMPETITION

UPN were headline sponsors of the inaugural Northamptonshire Logistics Forum Forklift Drivers Competition held recently at Linde Wellingborough. The competition saw the best forklift drivers from major blue-chip companies across the county competing in specialist Rugby and Football themed performance challenges that fully showcased their precision skills.



The first roll of honour included -

- **RUGBY CONVERSION** challenge - winner Daniel Ribano - Festo Ltd.
- **PENALTY SHOOTOUT** challenge - winner Malgorzata Jakobczyk - Kuehne + Nagel
- **Third Prize overall** - winner Sergiu Neculai from The NX Group.

- **Second Prize overall** - winner Raj Singh from Weetabix.
- **First Prize overall** - winner Paul Stafford from Alpro.

Tony Bellott - Chair of the Northamptonshire Logistics Forum said, 'It's great to see the skills demonstrated by these expert forklift drivers, they are key to the

success of the logistics sector in Northamptonshire. The Northamptonshire Logistics Forum was set up to represent and showcase the sector and today has been a great collaboration between businesses in the county to set this up. The competition is a truly collaborative event and we would like to thank all the companies who support the event, plans are in place for next year!'



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United Pallet Network, Gorse Lane, Fradley Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 8EN  
T - 0844 833 0300 F - 0844 833 0301 W - [www.u-p-n.co.uk](http://www.u-p-n.co.uk)