

Your UPN magazine

# DESPATCH

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## REACHES OVER 100 MEMBERS



### WITH NINE NEW MEMBERS UNITED PALLET NETWORK NOW HAS 100+ MEMBERS

Since April 2024, United Pallet Network (UPN) has achieved a significant milestone by expanding its network to include nine new members: Jays Logistics, P&S Bird, Home Counties Couriers, Hiltons Distribution, Transervice Group, TWE Haulage, Lakeland Commercials, John Pearce (Glynneath), and Malco Freight. This expansion boosts the UPN to a milestone total of 100+ committed high quality members.

This landmark expansion confirms UPN's commitment to building a strong, stable network with a focus on efficiency, reliability, and superior service for its diverse nationwide client base whilst championing green credentials and a carbon-neutral delivery focus.

David Brown, Managing Director of UPN, commented, "We've come a long way since our inception in 2001. Exceeding 100 members is an important milestone for UPN. Our expansion highlights our ongoing commitment to improve our service and expand our reach."

He added, "Our network growth to 100+ highly valued regional hauliers expands our reputation for outstanding service and comprehensive coverage."

"This expansion marks a key moment in UPN's journey, reinforcing the "Team UPN" position as a leader in the pallet network sector."

#### Inside DESPATCH

- Sector Spotlight
- Nine New Members
- Sustainability Boost
- Bob Delaney Joins
- Willows Dream
- UPN @ Multi Model 24
- Charity Truck Pull

## INSIDE - YOUR 2025 YEAR PLANNER



# SECTOR SPOTLIGHT



## Freight Crime needs to be tackled by Ministers

Freight crime is on the rise and it's destroying businesses, impacting the health, safety and wellbeing of our drivers and it's making it harder for firms to recruit and retain staff. We continue to highlight the urgent need for Government to tackle freight crime. We need tougher sentencing, more secure truck stops and better crime recording.

Despite being very organised, freight crime often goes unseen and under the radar. Freight crime is a growing problem nationally but it's often difficult to understand its true scale because of the way it's currently recorded. We're calling for the introduction of a specific freight crime offence with tougher sentencing options being put in place to reflect the seriousness of the crime. Presently freight crime is categorised as theft from a motor vehicle — the same as having a pair of sunglasses stolen from the car glove box — with a maximum sentence of seven years.

Freight crime is not a victimless crime and we want the Government to take urgent actions to address this issue. We stand ready to work with them to tackle this growing problem.

<https://www.rha.uk.net/news/news/detail/rha-tells-the-sun-that-freight-crime-needs-to-be-tackled-by-ministers>



The Association of Pallet Networks

## 2024 figures show steady growth for pallet sector

Association of Pallet Networks (APN) statistics for the first half of 2024 show steady growth of 1.5% in pallet volumes, and 3.5% growth in Q2 against the same period last year.

Key year-to-date insights include: Next-day services account for 61.5% of the total volume, and economy services for 39.0%, reflecting a slight increase in the use of economy services from the full year 2023. In the first half of 2024 all pallet sizes have seen growth compared to volumes for the same period in 2023, with full pallets increasing by 1%, half pallets by +0.9% and quarter pallets by +3.7%. 48.9% of all volume comprised full pallets, 28.9% half pallets, and 22.2% quarter pallets.

Home deliveries comprised 15.9% of all pallets, a 0.4% reduction from volumes seen in the same period in 2023. More than half of all B2C pallets were delivered on a next-day service. 58.2% of B2C quarter pallets are delivered on a next-day service. The number of consignments grew by almost 2% across the six month period and 3.3% in Q2.

APN chairman Paul Sanders said: "These figures show excellent prospects for the pallet network sector, with steady growth but no unmanageable spikes in volumes."

<https://www.theapn.co.uk/news/2024-figures-show-steady-growth-for-pallet-sector.aspx>



NETWORK MEMBER NEWS



## NINE FANTASTIC NEW MEMBERS



Since April 2024, UPN has welcomed nine new members to its network: Jays Logistics, P&S Bird, Home Counties Couriers, Hiltons Distribution, Transservice Group, TWE Haulage, Lakeland Commercials, John Pearce (Glynneath), and Malco Freight. These additions reflect UPN's ongoing commitment to growth, innovation, and sustainability in logistics.

"Reaching the milestone of over one hundred members is a proud moment for everyone at UPN," added David, "Our commitment to quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction drives us forward. As we continue to grow, we remain focused on maintaining the high standards that our clients have come to expect."



Established in 1988, **Jays Logistics** is a family owned business operating from Highbridge Somerset, providing a range of general haulage and logistics solutions and will be serving BS, and GL9 postcodes for UPN.

Based in Wickford, Essex, **P&S Bird** is a family run business, established in the early 1980's originally as a domestic removals company. Thirty years on P&S Bird is a well-established haulier with Silver FORS certification. They will be handling Part CM, and Part SS postcodes for UPN.

**Home Counties Couriers** was established in 1992. Based in St Albans the business provides a full range of UK, Europe-wide and International services to an extensive home counties client base. They will be handling LU postcodes for UPN.

Spalding-based **Hiltons Distribution** was founded thirty five years ago by former farmer Philip Hilton with a single truck, and has grown consistently during the past three decades. The business now provides a full range of parcel and pallet freight delivery services as well as storage and container handling facilities. They will be handling Part PE postcodes for UPN.

**Transservice Group** have a wealth of experience in Transport, Distribution, Warehousing and Training.

From a West Midlands facility centrally located in West Bromwich the business is ideally situated to offer services throughout the UK and Europe. They will be handling part of the WS postcode area.

**TWE Haulage** is a family-owned Transport and Distribution company based in Banbury, North Oxfordshire. Founded in 1982 the business provides a full range of services including general haulage and contract logistics.

**Lakeland Commercials**, based in Kendal, Cumbria, are a diverse transport business also providing General Haulage and Coach/Minibus services.

Established in 1973, **John Pearce (Glynneath) Limited** is a transport company based in South Wales, operating a large fleet of vehicles, from small vans to large articulated lorries.

Headed by MD, Alison Jeffrey, Ely based **Malco Freight**, is a family business with over 40 years of experience in haulage and distribution. Well-regarded for its commitment to providing tailored logistics solutions for a wide variety of clients, Malco Freight caters to a diverse range of industries, handling specialised freight such as, time sensitive live products, and high-value goods. They are handling several CB and SG postcode areas.



First Class Travel for Palletised Freight



# A MAGNIFICENT BOOST TO THE UNIQUE UNITED PALLET NETWORK SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE!



Highly valued UPN member, Telford based ADG has just taken delivery of the first Unit and Trailer in a new UPN Livery design created specifically to boost awareness of the network's passionate commitment to Carbon Neutral palletised freight delivery.

"ADG are honoured to be the first UPN member to take this fabulous new fleet livery on the road. We are all fully committed to Carbon Neutral Delivery," said ADG Director, Dan Brown, "This livery is going to look absolutely fantastic on the road and will undoubtedly turn heads and boost awareness of the increasing importance of sustainability!"



Paul Sanders MD of Allports Group supplied both the Tractor Unit and Double Deck Trailer in addition to developing the new livery commented, "Allports Group are really proud to have worked closely with ADG and UPN to provide the right equipment and to be involved in this very special project. Pallet Networks are one of the most sustainable forms of UK Logistics and its fantastic to be working in Partnership with UPN to be pushing Carbon Neutral Delivery as a network sector standard."

"UPN are proud to be the first network to drive forward sustainability as a core corporate commitment right across our member network," said David Brown UPN MD,

"It's fantastic that the team at ADG have bought into our initiative in such a spectacular and dynamic way.

What a magnificent boost to the unique United Pallet Network Sustainability Initiative!"

Pictured at the formal handover of the new livery – left to right – Paul Sanders – Allports Group MD, Dan Brown, Director ADG, and David Brown – UPN MD.

## UPN APPOINT BOB DELANEY AS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

UPN is pleased to announce the appointment of Bob Delaney as Business Development Director. Bob will be responsible for developing new business opportunities in alignment to UPN's commitment to sustainability and customer satisfaction.

Welcoming Bob into UPN Managing Director David Brown commented, "Bob's appointment is a strategic move in our ambitious growth plan. His expertise and leadership are vital as we continue to deliver first-class sustainable logistics solutions to our clients."

Bob brings huge experience to his role; he has spent his entire career in logistics. He began as a driver before gaining great experience across most operational roles before moving into Pallet Networking in 2000. Since then Bob has worked in senior positions with Palletways, Palletforce, and most recently was Network Development for TPN.

"I'm excited to be joining a forward thinking organisation like UPN," said Bob, "Especially at a time when the company is redefining industry standards in terms of sustainability and cutting edge technology support."





# PADDINGTON'S GRAND ADVENTURE AS TEAM UPN MAKES WILLOW'S DREAM COME TRUE

This isn't just any story—it's the heartwarming story of the journey of Willow Diamonds cherished Paddington Bear, made possible by the incredible teamwork of UPN members across the UK.



Willow, affectionately known as “Wonder Willow,” was born with a rare genetic mutation and has already faced more health challenges in her young life than most could imagine. Yet, her vibrant spirit continues to shine and inspire everyone around her. One of her dreams? To send her beloved Paddington Bear on a grand adventure across the country.

Thanks to Team UPN, that dream came true. Serene Warrener from North East-based UPN member Lescost Transport launched the journey, setting Paddington off to explore the UK with the support of the UPN network. From London to Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Staffordshire, and Birmingham, Paddington Bear, along with Willow's special book *The Adventure of Paddington - The Monster Hunt*,

travelled far and wide, taking in iconic football stadiums, landmarks, and exciting theme parks.

The true spirit of Team UPN came alive, with members Kieran Mason from K&R Mason, Stuart Fuller from FSW Ltd, Carl Beech from Response Logistics, Paula Blair from MSC Express, James Halliday from Farsley Transport, Linda Chorlton from Chorlton Express Transport, and the UPN central team all working together to give Paddington an unforgettable adventure. But it wasn't just about transporting a bear and a book—it was about delivering joy, hope, and smiles to a brave little girl who has overcome so much.

Thank you to everyone who made Willow's dream come true!

## UPN @ MULTI MODAL 2024

A big thank you to Barbara Ryan, Publishing Director of leading UK Haulage and Logistics Magazine, “Truck and Track” who hosted UPN at Multimodal 2024 and enabled Team UPN to showcase our sustainability commitment and our Carbon Neutral Delivery Initiative at this important industry event.

Multimodal2024 was a showcase for key supply chain businesses creating a hub for retailers, shippers, manufacturers, importers/exporters, wholesalers, and suppliers of cutting edge logistics solutions to come together to their mutual benefit.

The three day event at the NEC Birmingham ended on a really high note with a visit from Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, in her role as patron of Transaid, who honoured the exhibition with her presence, emphasising her commitment to Transaid, the international development charity she helped establish alongside Save the Children and The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT).



UPN @ Multimodal 2024 – L to R – Barbara Ryan - Truck and Track, David Brown - UPN, Lillie Keenan and Sue Keenan – UPN

## AT MORGAN CHARITY TRUCK PULL

Swansea based UPN Member -A.T. Morgan and Son recently hosted a family fun day and truck pull in aid of the South West Wales Cancer Centre (SWWCC). Company co-owners, Stephen and Helen Morgan were the driving force behind the event.

The event included inflatables for children, courtesy of Ospreys in the Community, food stalls, and a raffle with amazing prizes, as well as the truck pull itself within which a fantastic 11 teams participated.

The Swansea Truck Pull took place in Crymlyn Burrows, “It was basically having teams of four people pulling an 8.5-ton tractor unit over 15 metres,” said Helen, “It wasn't a big strongman event. It was just for regular people to have some fun. I was actually in a team of all-women, called “Helen's Hauliers.””

“Every team raised £200 in sponsorship. There were prizes for the winning team – On The Pull- and the runners-up – Tugmasters -and also an award for the

best-named team- On The Pull. Indeed, we had some peculiar names. It's been quite entertaining to see what the names were.”

“There are so many people touched by cancer,” said Helen. “People who have gone through it and have recovered, or unfortunately haven't survived it. My own dear uncle is being treated for cancer at the moment.

“But the staff at SWWCC are phenomenal, absolutely phenomenal, with the care and the attention they provide. They are amazing people who treat really heartbreaking cases. It's a sad place but it's also a happy place.”



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