

Strengthening commitment to local manufacturing with **PRODUCT LOCALISATION INITIATIVE**

Petrofer UK has announced a strategic initiative to localise the production of selected core products within the UK, reinforcing its long term commitment to service reliability, supply chain resilience and domestic manufacturing.

The move forms part of a wider strategy to optimise DCS member Petrofer's production footprint and supply chain, while maintaining the same high standards of product quality, performance and technical support that customers expect.

Over the course of the next year, Petrofer UK will begin producing several of its core products locally, with additional products to be reviewed for localisation where customer volumes support the transition. The initiative is designed to strengthen service levels for UK customers and reduce exposure to extended international supply chains.

Importantly, Petrofer has confirmed that while production locations will change for selected products, nothing else will. Formulations, technologies, specifications and quality controls will remain exactly the

same, ensuring complete continuity for customers.

"This initiative is about how we serve our customers more efficiently, not changing what they rely on," the company explained. "By localising production, we are strengthening the supply chain while maintaining the same proven product standards."

DELIVERING TANGIBLE CUSTOMER BENEFITS

The localisation programme is expected to deliver a range of operational and strategic benefits for UK customers, including:

- Improved supply reliability and continuity through shorter, more resilient supply lines.
- Greater flexibility and responsiveness to changes in demand.
- Reduced supply chain and logistics complexity.
- Lower environmental impact, supporting Petrofer's sustainability and responsible manufacturing commitments.

By reducing transport distances and simplifying logistics, the initiative also aligns with broader industry goals around carbon reduction and environmental responsibility.

SUPPORTING LONG TERM GROWTH AND UK INDUSTRY

Petrofer UK views the decision as a long term investment in both its customer base and the wider UK manufacturing sector. Local production enhances resilience against global disruption while supporting domestic industry and skilled employment.

"This is a practical example of how forward thinking partnerships can create mutual value," the company noted. "It strengthens continuity of supply while helping to protect and support UK manufacturing capability."

As the company looks ahead to 2026 and beyond, the localisation initiative represents a clear statement of intent: combining global expertise with local execution to deliver dependable, sustainable solutions for the UK market.

Showcasing advanced diecasting solutions for cost efficient production

Diecasting manufacturers face rising costs and increased competition across the industry, alongside growing interest in large structural approaches such as megacasting, says Alex Fowler, area sales manager – diecasting UK and Northern Europe at Bühler UK Limited. Meeting these demands requires targeted investment and strong partnerships.

At Euroguss 2026, DCS member company Bühler presented its latest innovations designed to improve overall production efficiency and reduce manufacturing costs across the diecasting process. Highlights included the Ecoline DS, Carat 720, intelligent cell control systems for all diecasting cell sizes, and a comprehensive service portfolio across production scales.



The Ecoline DS diecasting machine



Members of the Bühler team pictured at Euroguss 2026, held in January in Nuremberg

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2026

The following events are planned for this year.

Tuesday 28th April 2026

DCS Annual General Meeting

Jodrell Bank, Cheshire (UK), 10.30am meeting
Followed by lunch, film and a visit £20.00 per person. AGM and lunch free of charge to DCS members

Friday 15th May 2026

DCS Midlands Golf Day

Venue: TBC

This event is sponsored by Tandom Metallurgical Group

Tuesday 9th June 2026

Visit and tour of BCAST

Friday 11th September 2026

DCS National Golf Day

Moor Hall Golf Club, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands

This event is sponsored by Coleshill Aluminium

Wednesday 15th October 2026

Concorde guided tour at Bristol Aerospace

Ticket price: TBC

For more details and updates on events, contact Ann Gough, email: annie@icme.org.uk or visit: www.dcs.org.uk

UK company produces its largest low pressure diecasting

Bridge Aluminium Kettering has commenced series production of its largest LPDC casting to date, a net weight of 80kg oil pan, for a global OEM customer.

The company's operations director and DCS president, Steve Wood, said: "The project has been twelve months in duration, ensuring we have been able to design a robust component that conforms to existing geometry and utilises current fixturing for machining. The benefits of LPDC over sand cast are well known, add to that the need to minimise our waste streams and reduce CO₂ footprints, and the transition of sand to permanent



Jenkinson and Lloyd sizing up tool before loading onto Bridge Aluminium's LPM LPDC

mould has huge potential for Bridge Aluminium, we already have won new business on the back of this project with other OEMs.

"Bridge Aluminium has unrivalled capability with the UK foundry industry – sand, both Coscast and gravity, permanent mould (gravity and tilt), LPDC up to 100kg gross casting weight, HPDC up to 1850t, in-house heat treatment, shotblasting (tumble/hanging and conveyor blast), NDT including dye pen and digital x-ray, plus onsite machining including 5 axis.

"Bridge Aluminium continues to demonstrate its capability time and time again and we are investing heavily to ensure we are well placed within the sector to capitalise on opportunities, there are exciting times ahead with the new projects we have in the pipeline."



Justin Jenkinson, toolroom and tooling design manager, and Trevor Lloyd, foundry manager, witnessing the birth of another 80kg oil pan



DCS Website

The DCS website has been updated. DCS members are invited to submit entries to the website, news items etc. to populate it by emailing: dcs@icme.org.uk



Diecasting Society Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 28th April: 10.30am

Venue: Jodrell Bank, Lower Withington, Cheshire SK11 9DL, UK

DCS members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 28th April 2026. Following the meeting, there will be a tour of the venue – Jodrell Bank.

Jodrell Bank, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a world leading deep space radio observatory. Uncover the inspirational heritage of Jodrell Bank in the new First Light Pavilion. Inside this architecturally stunning building, there is a bold new exhibition telling the pioneering stories of the scientists and engineers that made history.

Annual General Meeting with lunch, followed by the opportunity to visit the venue.

Ticket price includes a film about space. Cost for ticket only – £20.00 + VAT.

AGM and lunch – free of charge for DCS members.

Booking form to be sent to DCS members, in the meantime to book, contact Ann Gough, email: annie@icme.org.uk or dcs@icme.org.uk



Join the Diecasting Society

Membership is open to both individuals and companies who have an interest in the manufacture of die cast metal products. That interest might be as a foundry or a supplier to a foundry.

Each member receives the *Diecasting Society Newsletter*, and reduced rate attendance at all the Society events, both technical and social. Annual membership is £45.00 for an individual member and £235.00 for companies (which includes four reduced rate places for named employees at the company). The cost for a student or trainee is just £8.50.

To start enjoying the benefits of membership email: annie@icme.org.uk or visit www.dcsoc.org.uk