

Hunter Stoves Group celebrate 21 years of manufacturing innovation in Exeter



20 September 2017 - Exeter-based wood stove manufacturer, Hunter Stoves Group, recently celebrated a generation of being at the forefront of research and development in the manufacturing industry, marking their 21st anniversary as a business.

The landmark was celebrated at the launch of Hunter Stoves Group's new five-room mezzanine showroom, as distributors, staff members and friends of the business reflected on their growth to become one of the leading wood stove manufacturers in the UK.

Paul Grimes, Managing Director of Hunter Stoves Group, believes that this success has been, in part, due to their commitment to investing in research and development, collaborating with partners such as the University of Exeter on industry leading research.

He said, "At Hunter Stoves Group we've always aimed to be at the cutting edge of the industry and, after 21 years of growth, I'm confident that we have achieved that and have an excellent product range that our customers love.

Our commitment to research and development is central to our business and ensures that we continue to innovate, whilst our evolving manufacturing capabilities mean that we can respond quickly to the demands of the market so that there is the perfect Hunter Stoves product for every home."

Hunter Stoves Group's most recent project is a collaboration with the University of Exeter, researching modelling combustion, highly innovative work that will have a monumental impact on product design for stoves and wood burners.

Professor Gavin Tabor from the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences at the University of Exeter, who leads the research, joined Hunter Stoves Group at their birthday celebrations and spoke about this industry leading research project.

He said "This is a very exciting industry-driven research challenge to be working on, and an excellent opportunity to collaborate with such a key manufacturer in the Exeter area. PhD student Adam Azenić and I have been exploring the industrial applications of Computational Fluid Dynamics, including their

use in wood stove combustion modelling. It's a great example of how physics and engineering can be used to establish environmental sustainability within manufacturing".

Hunter Stoves Group first formed a research and development department in 2003, with a focus to design more efficient stoves, pre-empting a major shift in the industry to reduce both running costs and emissions. In 2008, the research and development department was expanded, with around £1.5million of investment in a bespoke facility in Camelford.

The evening also featured a tour of Hunter Stoves Group's new mezzanine showroom, a beautifully designed centrepiece that displays their product range and history over five rooms, which has been a year in the making.

Paul Grimes said "It was an absolute pleasure to officially launch our new showroom at our 21st birthday and to share it with our staff, distributors and friends who have been a part of this journey.

When you look back at where we began, in a small factory just outside of Exeter, to being one of the UK's leading wood stove manufacturers today, as well as sharing some of our exciting plans for the future, it really puts things in perspective and makes you reflect on just how much we've all achieved together."

In 1996 the Hunter Stoves brand was purchased from Ravenheat Ltd and relocated to the South West in a factory near Exeter. The brand then went from strength to strength in its new home, establishing itself at the forefront of the industry to become one of the leading wood stove manufacturers.

Notes to Editors

Hunter Stoves Limited was originally founded in 1970 and was one of the UK's first wood stove manufacturers. It was purchased by the current directors 21 years ago and relocated to Exeter, where it has established itself as one of the most popular stove brands in the country.

Hunter Stoves Group manufacture over 200 different designs of multifuel, wood and gas stoves and have grown to employ 50 full-time employees, with their head office and warehouse based in Exeter Business Park.

Hunter Stoves Group have a dedicated Research and Development facility based in Camelford, Cornwall, which also incorporates the manufacturing of stoves. The Hunter Stoves Group portfolio features a variety of trusted brands, all known for exceptional quality and emission levels, including Herald, Di Lusso, Avalon, Cleanburn and Parkray stoves.

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