



Welcome to our new service centre

By **Michael Limb**, Service Manager

Westin Drives has a new spacious, modern home. We've moved a few yards from our old workshop into a large, purpose-built service centre.

We specialise in the repair and servicing of industrial electric motors and the design and installation of control systems. We also offer bespoke CNC precision manufacturing

The business, established in 1921, had outgrown its previous premises and, crucially, the existing crange of two tonnes. Our new centre has two 10 tonne cranes which can be linked to lift up to 20 tonnes.

Headroom had been an issue in our old workshop, forcing us to stack horizontally rather than vertically.

But there's plenty of headroom in the new premises and abundant storage space in our adjoining 19th century, five-storey mill.

Larger repairs often carry high voltage windings requiring specific



test equipment. So we are investing in a 12kV SKF surge tester and armature testing unit to ensure maximum quality and reliability for customers with AC and DC needs.

The same test equipment used on a 550kW motor will be used on a 0.18kW fractional hp motor, for we appreciate that a small motor can be just as crucial as a large one.

We've also developed our machining capability to offer the manufacture and repair of any component.

With a range of machines, from conventional to computer-controlled devices, we can now produce parts large and small as one-offs or in batches with a quick turnaround.

CUSTOMER BENEFITS

TRAINING ROOM

We offer industrial training courses delivered by qualified personnel in subjects such as maintenance and asset management.

PANEL BUILDING SERVICES

Our panel building department, once limited to small to medium panels, now has few size limitations.

CNC PRECISION ENGINEERING

We have carried out mechanical repairs associated with motor-driven systems for decades. We are now able to provide a much broader service to customers.

IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY

Customers will recall the restrictions imposed by our previous entrance. Our new service centre has two dedicated loading areas and plenty of car parking.

WORKSHOP NEWS

Engineers sprint to the rescue of manufacturer

A Sprint Electric drive saved the day for a manufacturer experiencing problems with a tripping DC drive.

The 20-year-old machine had been reliable until the tripping grew more frequent.

After replacing everything associated with the Siemens DC drive, the customer contacted our technical services department.

The fault was diagnosed over the phone to be an internal power supply issue.

To minimise downtime, the customer chose to have a retrofitted Sprint Electric drive, which could be done within 10 hours.

Our engineers completed the job on time and production was reliable once more.

Giant motor is fixed in a flash

We were called in by a customer when a large flash was seen from the commutator/brush gear of a 1000 HP DC motor.

Our engineers noticed signs of arcing and damage to the commutator and advised that the eight-tonne motor needed to be serviced.

The largest by power and weight that we have ever handled, it was delivered to our service centre where it was carefully dismantled.

Years of carbon and grime were cleaned from within the motor, the commutator was skimmed and undercut and new carbon brushes were fitted. Windings were tested and bearing surfaces measured for tolerance.

Finally our engineers reassembled the motor with its new bearings and ancillaries and returned it to the relieved customer.

CNC offers new machining possibilities to customers



Precision: Matt Phillips programmes the new CNC milling machine

Westin Drives – a one-stop shop for all your engineering needs

By Fraser Lynch, Technical Manager

We have created a precision engineering department to enable Westin Drives to become a one-stop shop for the manufacture and repair of any component.

We are now able to offer a total engineered solution from design to product development.

By utilising a range of machines, from conventional to computer controlled devices, we can produce parts large and small as one-offs or in batches with a quick turnaround. And as a 24-hour company, we are available around the clock for our customers.

All aspects of machining are catered

for: basic turning, CNC milling, grinding, gear cutting and spiral welding/metal spraying plus three-dimensional design and computer-aided design drawing packages.

We will soon be able to offer complex, computer-aided manufacturing software compatible for offline programming and the latest CNC turning equipment to handle more advanced and bespoke items that take longer to make.

Matt Phillips, repair engineer in the precision engineering workshop, says: "Our range of precision machinery gives us the ability to work to tolerances of three decimal places."



Appointments to strengthen our team



MICHAEL LIMB BSc
Service Manager

Michael began his career as a trainee with a company making drive systems for industrial motors and has over 35 years' experience of field service / aftercare across a variety of sectors.

He has been a field engineer, worked in technical support and progressed into a management role several years ago.

He oversees the management of our repair and mechanical engineering workshops and is working to increase efficiency by improving working and administrative procedures.



RICHARD BRUFFELL
Internal Sales Representative

We were pleased to welcome back Richard to Westin Drives this year. He has rejoined as Internal Sales Representative and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role.

His enthusiasm, expertise and extensive contacts within the industry are already helping him to make a valuable contribution to our future success.



FEATURE: SKF CERTIFIED REBUILDER



Steve Ormondroyd
rewinds a motor in
our service centre

Why it makes sense to use a certified motor rebuilder

By **Steve Ormondroyd**, Workshop Supervisor

Electric motors rank among the highest in incident reports – a problem that can lead to a cycle of costly repairs and unplanned downtime.

While bearing failure is recognized as the primary mechanical symptom of motor failure, many motor repair shops are not trained to investigate the underlying causes such as improper maintenance, handling, installation and service.

Often, they simply replace the bearings and return the motor, which once again is doomed for failure. And so the cycle continues.

This cycle of continual repair costs and downtime can be prevented by using a SKF Certified Rebuilder like Westin Drives to repair your electric motors.

Our engineers undergo specialised training with an emphasis on root cause failure analysis, bearing installation, lubrication and condition monitoring. The aim is to prevent recurring failures and extend motor service life.

SKF Certified Rebuilders must meet exacting standards and specifications, and are regularly audited to make sure they comply. Repairs are done right every time, using only SKF bearings.

By identifying and eliminating the root causes of bearing failure, rebuilds carried out by an SKF Certified Rebuilder open the door to new levels of motor reliability and productivity.

In addition, motors can operate at peak efficiency, which can have a significant impact on energy consumption.



New service: Technical Manager
Fraser Lynch at the training wall

Technical training courses: a new service for our customers

Westin Drives is pleased to announce a range of in-house training courses as a new service for customers.

They take place in the technical services department of our service centre in Huddersfield.

We have created a custom-built training wall and installed a variety of motor drives to enable us to provide bespoke courses on inverters, PLCs and associated products.

Customers can specify the level of knowledge their staff require to deal

with on-site faults and we will adapt course contents to meet these needs.

As it is important for trainees to gain hands-on experience, group sizes will be limited to allow time for this activity.

Courses are available on request and customers can be confident in the quality of our training as we are a Lenze Authorised Performance Partner.

Please contact our service manager Michael Limb on 01484 453399 for course details.

Pumped up by energy savings

A customer was delighted when energy savings of 40 per cent were achieved after our engineers installed new pumps in a sports stadium swimming pool.

The stadium firm wished to replace the recirculating pumps for its main pool and invited Westin Drives to tender for the work.

The pumps were reaching the end of their life and the casings were rusted almost to cracking point.

Our technical services engineers suggested replacing the old star delta starters with an energy-saving variable speed drive panel.

A 33% energy saving was calculated, giving a pay-back period of 14 months on the new panel.

The proposal was accepted and we were given the job against stiff competition from other companies.

Facebook friends

Find out more about our team, our work and our plans on Facebook. Please drop by and like our page!

www.facebook.com/WestinDrives

A question of balance

Balancing shafts and rotors is a vital part of ensuring the enduring reliability of rotating equipment. Yet it still isn't addressed by most service companies.

We receive for repair a lot of equipment that's clearly been 'repaired' by another company. Often, it is obvious that no balancing has been performed, which may explain why the unit needs repairing again.

Connor Earnshaw, *right*, one of our technical services engineers, can be seen performing vibration analysis and thermal imaging, *inset*, on a repaired motor, after re-balancing.

