magazine

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LEFORT®

77 ANS · YEARS 1947–2024

LEFORT.COM

Words of the C.E.O.

In summer 2023, we announced that the LEFORT® Group had acquired 100% of the capital of COPEX company, marking an important milestone in our development.

Created 77 years ago by Mr. Nestor Lefort and still 100% owned by the same family, the LEFORT® Group, which is now having around 300 employees, offers wide geographical coverage and unique experience in the design and manufacture of recycling equipment.

More than ever, our ambition is to be on the side of our customers every day and ensure them unrivalled productivity.

Significant actions on products and resources have been implemented to bring us closer to this ambition. Our range of machines has been unified and updated, based on the best-seller machines of each company.

This magazine is the best proof of that with articles on the 2000-ton LIDEX in service at Galloo, Belgium, on TRAX shears, patented internationally by LEFORT®, in operation at the Bader and Peacock's Recycling sites in Switzerland and the US, and on the 1300-ton KOLOSS with press wings belonging to our long-term customer J. DAVIDSON in the UK.

Following this LEFORT® Group's first external growth operation, our sales and after-sales teams have been merged to ensure our customers' responsiveness and international expertise.

This merger of two historic players in the recycling industry gives us the means to continue investing in the development of our talents and our production tools, so that we can best support our customers in the growth of our sector.

Alexandre Henkens
C.E.O.

In this Issue

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2024

Come and Meet Us !

ISRI Convention Las Vegas, Nevada	**15-18** April
IFAT Munich, Germany	**13-17** May
SRR Madrid, Spain	**18-20** June
Scrap Expo 2024 Louisville, Kentucky, USA	**17-18** September
Ecomondo Rimini, Italy	**5-8** November
Vakbeurs Recycling Gorinchem, The Netherlands	**12-14** November

From left to right : Eddie Peacock Sr (Owner), Billy Peacock (Operator) et Eddie Peacock Jr. (Yard Supervisor)

TRAX650 from Peacock's Recycling has a 6-meter box (19'8"), a pusher force of 180 tons (200 USt), two wrap-around wings of 240 t (265 USt) and a diesel engine of 302 HP.

TRAX at Peacock's Recycling: Born for recycling

Peacock's Recycling of Macon, GA USA, have been using their first LEFORT® TRAX 650 (660 US tons) since 2022. This unique shear/baler/logger on tracks was invented and internationally patented by LEFORT®. Here is Eddie Peacock's testimonial.

LEFORT® AMERICA : Eddie, how long has Peacock's Recycling been in business? Can you give us a little history?

EP : We've been in business legally since about 1980 and the other business started about 1976 and I've been cutting up cars and junk since 1959, when I was 8 years old. Been doing it a while had a chop axe and a hammer to cut them up with and a box of matches so we could burn them. We had to burn them back then and cut them in four pieces. This business has pretty good things after coming from that.

LA : What drove your decision to buy your LEFORT® ?

EP : The old machinery I had wouldn't work and was constantly breaking down. We looked at LEFORT®, watched them work and were immediately interested. They worked good, and everybody I talked to was very satisfied, so we tried one. We've had it for just over two years, and it's been a real good machine. We've had a few simple problems with it, but the technical staff at LEFORT® AMERICA have always been there and solved them. They've never let us down. We're completely satisfied with the machine.

LA : How has owning LEFORT® impacted your business?

EP : We had a fairly new machine that wouldn't run two days a week barely and then it was down for about a year or better and didn't run at all. I absolutely had to do something to modernize my tool. That's when I met LEFORT®. If I hadn't bought this machine, we'd probably be out of business. We needed a reliable machine. Today, with the LEFORT®, we process 500-600 tons a month of cut grade average usually, 100 tons of 1 ½ bundles and 1,000 tons of shred on the low end.

LA : What do you think of the quality, design and construction of your LEFORT® ?

EP : LEFORT®'s engineers are the best I've ever met. Our machine is stable and robust. There is very little downtime. The machine doesn't wiggle, move, bulge, it just sits and works. It doesn't twist, bind or anything. It's a good machine.

LA : As your business grows, would you buy another LEFORT® in the future?

EP : I'll be buying another one in the near future. They're great machines. The price point and support. Everyone I've dealt with is knowledgeable, friendly, receptive to our needs and open to suggestions about changes for our specific needs.

Thanks to Eddy Peacock for his testimonial.

Jonathan Miller,
Managing Director at LEFORT® AMERICA

" In 2014, the Lefort family created the subsidiary "LEFORT® North America" to officialize its presence on the American continent and provide his existing customers with a service to match the quality of their machines. Demand from new customers for new machines grew very fast as the American market was in need for modern and more productive machines. In 2024, we are approaching a hundred machines in operation!
Lefort set up for the very long term in the United States, with a clear strategy, which has made the Group famous since 1947: to supply top quality equipment with efficient customer service.
Today, LEFORT® America can rely on a solid team of field technicians, multiple service trucks on in locations across the US from Texas to the Atlantic coast, and a corporate headquarters in Florida, with our offices and a large warehouse where we stock all the spare parts needed for our machines in operation."

The Galloo Group wants full power for the port of Ghent

The leading ferrous and non-ferrous metal processor has just received a new LIDEX shear at his Belgian site in Ghent: it is a behemoth of iron and steel, with a cutting force of 2,000 tonnes, that will enable the Group to process the huge volumes of scrap metal destined for export.

On Friday 22 March 2024, a festive atmosphere reigned at the Galloo site in Ghent. Staff were invited to the inauguration of the latest shear purchased by the Group, which is exceptional in more ways than one. It is both the largest shear owned by Galloo, and the largest made by the manufacturer in the LIDEX range of side compression machines.

Strategic site in Ghent

The Galloo Group has 45 sites in Belgium, France and the Netherlands. Some are small collection sites that operate without machines. Others are equipped with medium-sized scrap shears, generally 1,000 tonnes - the 'mid size' range in the Group's jargon. Galloo Ghent is a particularly strategic site. Ghent is one of the largest port facilities on the North Sea, located at the southern end of the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal. Ships enter the port via three locks, the largest of which measures 355 x 40 x 13.50 m. The canal and port are accessible to ships of up to 80,000 tonnes with a draught of 13.5 m. The site fulfils three major functions: firstly, it is the processing site for all the scrap metal located in the Ghent conurbation, the top 5 city in Belgium. Secondly, it is a hub for export activities. 1,000,000 tonnes of scrap metal pass through the site every year. Finally, the site is also active in ship breaking, i.e. of boats of course, but also of any other large floating object.

Inauguration of the new machine with Galloo staff

LIDEX2000 for maximum productivity

Group CEO Rik Debaere explains: "*The company was using an old 2000-tonne American shear that was running out of steam. So, it was time to think about a more modern and much faster machine. However, we wanted to keep the same cutting force. The manufacturer followed our lead with a shear fitted with two 1000-tonne cylinders and a 10 x 2.60 m box identical to their 1700-tonne model. The machine has only been in operation for a few weeks, but we have already been able to appreciate its extreme speed - it goes around 3 times faster than its predecessor, which was admittedly very tired. With this machine, we will be able to process up to 5-6,000 tonnes of scrap per month. If we add scrap from other Galloo sites and external scrap suppliers, we load two 40,000-tonne ships a month in Ghent - you have to imagine ships 200 m long and 34 m wide loaded by two special cranes - that's three full days of loading.*"

The advantages of LIDEX

Galloo now has four LIDEX shears: one with a capacity of 1,000 tonnes, bought second-hand in 2013, two others with the same capacity, bought new and installed in 2021 and 2023, and finally the machine in Ghent. This is an opportunity for Rik Debaere to go back over the three key arguments that justify his preference for this model of machine, the only one to offer a fully automatic compression and shearing cycle. Firstly, the high efficiency of the hydraulics, which ensure smooth, reliable and jolt-free operation; secondly, the design and kinematics of the lid and preload table, which deposits the scrap metal in the middle of the compression box. Finally, Galloo is always impressed by the extremely fast, efficient and above all very safe blade changing system, as safety is also very important to the Group.

New LIDEX at GALLOO: cutting force of 2,000 tonnes, large blade width of 1,500 mm, 10-metre box and powerful 8x110 kW hydraulics

The adventure will not stop there, as Galloo has just confirmed the purchase of two more LIDEX1000 shears, to anticipate future needs to replace the 22 shears that the Group has and to expand through new site acquisitions.

GALLOO.COM

GROUPE GALLOO IN FIGURES

1,25
Million tonnes of materials to be recycled/treated

650
Million € turnover

750
Employees

N°1
in Belgium and No. 2 in France

LEFORT TRAX 700 scrap shear at Bader Recycling : cutting force 700t, compression box 6600x2600 mm, hold-down 120t, pusher 180t, press force on each wing 325t, diesel engine of 400 hp.

Bader Recycling's TRAX:

An all-terrain machine

Swiss company Bader Recycling has been operating a TRAX 700 at its Martigny site since February 2024. According to the company, which does a lot of demolition work, this track-mounted machine can go to any site.

An expert and committed company

For Bader Recycling, active in French-speaking Switzerland, the story began in 1850, when the great-grandfather of the Bader family started his recycling business. 170 years later, we are in the 4th generation, with Gérald Bader and his sister running the company founded in 1974 by their parents.

Specialising in the recycling of scrap and metal, Bader Recycling is an expert in the dismantling of very large metal structures, including special, difficult jobs such as removing bulky 150-tonne boilers or working on sites that are difficult to access.

The company also attaches great importance to passing on its skills and know-how and is heavily involved in apprentice training. In fact, it is listed as a referee for apprenticeships in Switzerland.

The TRAX: Extreme mobility and reduced costs

While the rest of the Bader Group, including Bader Recycling, only had static shears/balers/loggers, the Director of Bader Recycling saw the advantages of having mobile equipment. "*We have some very large sites where it's more efficient to bring equipment to the site than to have to bring the scrap back to our site in Martigny. The big advantage of the TRAX, compared even to mobile shears on wheels, is that you can go anywhere. Sometimes the places we go are like battlefields. Yet the TRAX, with its powerful tracks, always manages to find its way around*", says Bader. Increasingly expensive energy means that recycling companies need to minimize travel and transport. Wit the TRAX Bader Recycling made deep cuts in their costs.

Ease of transport and efficiency of the LEFORT® system

Bader opted for the TRAX 700 because it was the largest model in the range that could be moved without having to remove the tracks. "*When we need to move the machine, we just load it up, and once it's on the site, it's immediately operational. It's super easy!*" Bader also emphasises the machine's extreme speed: "*I'm impressed by the speed of the movements and the hydraulics. I think LEFORT® is way ahead of other manufacturers.*"

The Web Visu remote maintenance option on the machine is particularly appreciated by the operator. "*At the beginning, we found that the lubrication was a bit strong on our shear. LEFORT® was able to optimize lubrication in a remote way and this was changed in just a few minutes.*"

2024: Realistic optimism

Despite all the uncertainties in the world, Bader thinks that business will remain buoyant in 2024. "*Recycling will continue to grow as resources become scarcer. The recycling chain is an essential element that will have to work better and better in the years to come. What's more, companies have understood importance of recycling and are sorting their materials better and better.*"

Against a backdrop of rising energy costs and the development of solar panels, the Swiss recycler believes that hybrid solutions for machines like TRAXs should make more and more sense. It's a good thing that LEFORT® has just launched the electric E-TRAX model, equipped with a diesel-only module for moving the machine, with the firm ambition to stay "one step ahead".

BADER-RECYCLING.CH

GROUPE BADER RECYCLING IN FIGURES

1974
Foundation date

12
Employees

30 000 t
of scrap metal per year

J. Davidson's KOLOSS : 1,300 tons cutting force, 8-meter box, two press wings of 400 tons each, 240-ton hold-down, and 180-ton pusher.

KOLOSS 1300:

J. Davidson leading the way with LEFORT®

Recycling specialist J. Davidson has been operating a KOLOSS scrap shear with press wings at its Altrincham site, Cheshire (UK) since 2023. This heavy-duty machine has enabled this loyal LEFORT® customer to continue to grow and develop.

J. Davidson are one of the North West's largest and longest established scrap metal dealers. Founded in 1970 by the late Jack Davidson, the business is now run by Jack's son Jamie, with the help of his two sons Luke and Lee.

The company's core business is the recycling of all types of metal products from end-of-life vehicles, industrial and construction demolition or commercial and domestic metal waste. Around 40,000 tonnes of metal are recycled every year.

With over 40 years' experience in the scrap metal recycling sector, the company has become an expert in its field, but doesn't want to sit on its laurels. Based on an ambitious 5 year replacement policy, the company remains at the cutting edge of technology by using the most up-to-date equipment available in the scrap processing industry. That is the reason why they have chosen LEFORT® for their scrap shears for many years.

Dave Chapman, Managing Director at LEFORT® UK explains: *"J. Davidson received their first LEFORT® machine, a 500 TSPFE (forerunner of the Conqueror) in 1997. This machine worked very well and enabled them to expand their business while continuing to work at a small site in Altrincham. The 500-ton machine soon proved too small, and they upgraded to a 600-ton machine. This soon became undersized, and they installed a Medium 700 as well as a Mobile 600 shear for outdoor projects. In 2012, they moved to their current site on Craven Road and took delivery of one of the first Midway 1000 TS shears manufactured by LEFORT®. The yard was a great success and, thanks to the enhanced performance of the 1000T shear, they were regularly able to process over 1000 tonnes of scrap per week. In 2023, they installed the LEFORT® KOLOSS 1300 TS. I believe that in total no less than 11 LEFORT® machines have passed through our customer's hands. Apart from one used Mobile 600, all these machines were bought new."*

The new J. Davidson's KOLOSS has a cutting force of 1,300 tons and a large 8-meter box. It is powered by a 2 x 600 HP diesel engine and has a cabin for easy operation. Additional features are the automatic centralized lubrication, and the hydraulic blade fixing system for rapid blade change. The hold-down with "combs" patented by LEFORT® reduces wear and the risk of scrap metal jamming.

Jamy Davidson concludes: *"We've been operating our KOLOSS for a year now. We're still impressed by its performance. We regularly process 1,500 tonnes of scrap every week, and we're confident in the reliability and profitability that the KOLOSS will bring us in the future."*

JDAVIDSONSCRAP.COM

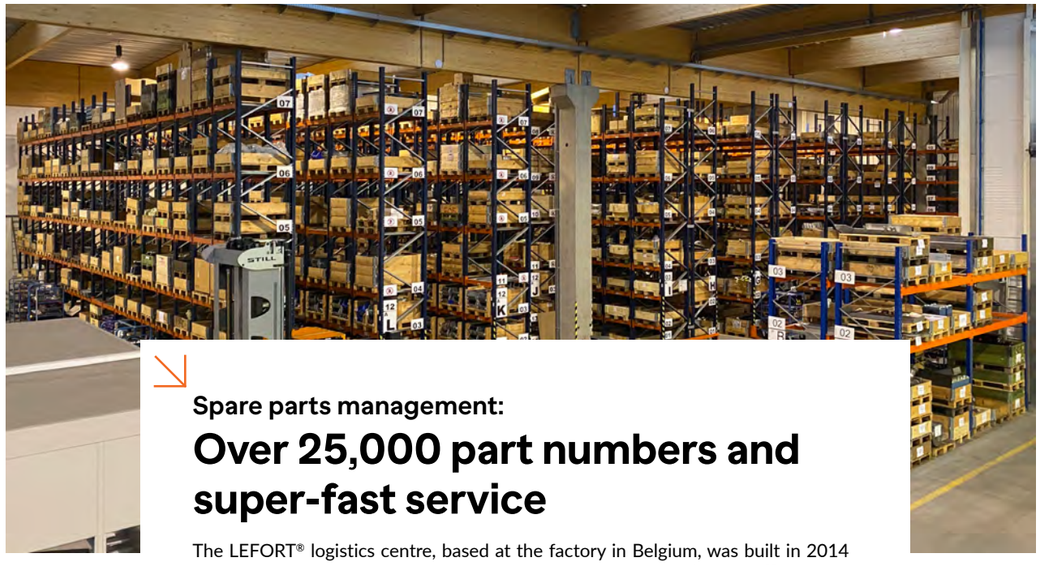
J. DAVIDSON IN FIGURES

1970
Foundation date

35
Employees

11
Number of LEFORT® machines

40 000t
Volume of scrap processed per year



Spare parts management:

Over 25,000 part numbers and super-fast service

The LEFORT® logistics centre, based at the factory in Belgium, was built in 2014 and has since been successively extended and modernized. It now offers more than 25,000 item references, representing the largest stock of parts available in our sector! It is a major investment, but that is vital for our customers, because: without parts, you cannot have repairs!

The stocked parts systematically go through a quality control process before they enter the warehouse. There, they are checked, referenced and/or serialised so that they can be traced throughout the life cycle of the machine on which they will be used.

The order handling process is fully computerised, ensuring that our services are more responsive. In practical terms, once an order has been entered into the ERP system, it takes just a few hours for the parcel to be dispatched to the customer or our dealer. Over 80% of orders are dispatched the same day!

A team of 20 people work every day in this huge shop to meet our customers' needs as quickly as possible.

Watch our video

LEFORT® plant:

Welcome to Industry 4.0!

It is also known as the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It is based on the integration of digital technologies into industrial manufacturing processes. Industry 4.0 is presented as the new challenge industrial companies will have to face.

To meet this challenge of the future, LEFORT® has decided to invest in a new SORALUCE multitasking machine tool with latest-generation numerical control.

With this new machine, unique in Belgium, LEFORT® will increase its productivity and consolidate its expertise in milling and turning large metal parts. It is equipped with Industry 4.0 technology, useful for monitoring and controlling its use in real time. It will mainly be used to machine mechanically-welded parts used in the manufacture of heavy-duty shears.

With this machine, LEFORT® made a substantial investment here, confirming its determination to become a real center of expertise in machining, and demonstrating its intention to remain at the cutting edge of its sector, by constantly modernizing its facilities and production tools.

In **1947**, Nestor Lefort founds a small workshop specializing in manufacturing and maintaining hydraulic equipment. This workshop is the birthplace of the first 7,300 psi hydraulic pumps.

1958

10 years later, Yvon Lefort, Nestor's son, invents and manufactures the hydraulic alligator shear ! A world first. Hundreds of machines were sold until 2020.

1974

The very first LEFORT® mobile shear.

1980

LEFORT® launches a heavy series of special balers. An exceptional machine equipped with a 700T pusher ram and 500T per lid.

1982,

Christian Lefort designs the 420TSP mobile shear : the first of an impressive range of mobile machines that will revolutionize the scrap metal industry.

1999

The first 1000T heavy shear, US version, was delivered in Indiana (USA).

2002

LEFORT® UK is created, the result of a successful and a long-standing partnership with the Chapman family.

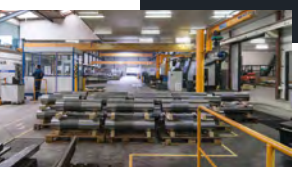
LEFORT UNITED KINGDOM

2003

Complete modernization of the ranges CONQUEROR, MEDIUM & AMAZONE.

2006

LEFORT® invests in a brand new state of the art factory exclusively dedicated to manufacture its own hydraulic cylinders.



2013

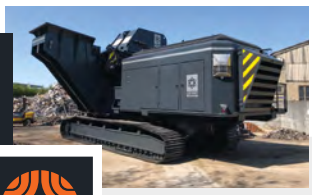
ISO 9001 certification wich testifies to the continuous optimization, performance and quality approach in which LEFORT® has been involved since its beginnings.

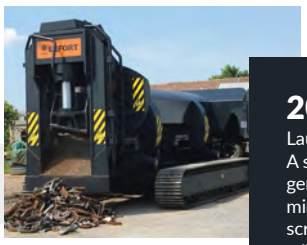
2014

Establishment of LEFORT® AMERICA & LEFORT® FRANCE, in charge of the sales and service in their respective territories.

LEFORT AMERICA

LEFORT FRANCE





2016

Launch of the TRAX range. A self -propelled machine that generates major saving by minimizing the need to move scrap on site. This machines will revolutionize the industry. The patent is filed.

2018

First track-mounted hammer mill shredder with integrated power unit.

LEFORT® DEUTSCHLAND is created, based in the Düsseldorf Area and covering German-speaking countries.

LEFORT DEUTSCHLAND

2020

New KOLOSS Range integrating the "heavy shears". Machines modern, quick and extremely robust allowing to achieve a very high production.

2022

Confirming the growing interest heavy LEFORT® shears. LEFORT® delivers the biggest shear ever built so far with a 2000 tons cutting force, weighing +/- 550T !

COPEX

2023

Acquisition of the French manufacturer COPEX.

2024

Let's build our future together...

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