



100 TO 110

— YEARS —

A REVIEW OF THE LAST DECADE 2014 – 2024

.....
CELEBRATING
110
YEARS OF SERVICE
.....

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110 YEARS OF SERVICE

A REVIEW OF THE LAST DECADE 2014 – 2024

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CELEBRATING

110

YEARS OF SERVICE

.....



President's Welcome

It is 10 years since the Electrical Distributors' Association celebrated its centenary, and I am proud to introduce this reminder of our last decade.

As you reflect on this visual journey through the years, what's striking is not just the Association's growth in membership and affiliation but also its increasing strength of purpose.

It was in our centenary year in 2014 that I became involved with the EDA, volunteering as one of the first Education and Training Ambassadors, before taking a seat on the Board of Management a year later. It is, however, a sobering thought when we realise just how quickly time passes, and how young we all looked even a few years ago!

Whether you are new to the EDA or you have been part of this business community for many years, thank you for your support and loyalty. Let's all of us 'seize the day' and here's to the next 10 years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Ashworth', with a stylized, flowing script.

Chris Ashworth
CEO, CEF Ltd
EDA President (until March 2025)

Timeline

2014

With 98 Members and 57 Affiliated Members, the EDA celebrates 100 years as the trade association supporting the UK's electrical wholesalers.

Ray Evans is Director, supported by Lynn Ellis and Joanna Key.

Margaret Fitzsimons takes over as Director in June.

Education and Training Ambassadors formed in Q4.

2016

AWEBB brings all members into the EDA: 21 out of 72 companies had already been members since 2011, increasing membership to 152.

'What keeps you awake at night?' is published: the EDA's first major piece of research into issues affecting the supply chain.

Work starts on the new Product Knowledge Programme.

2018

Leading the first UK delegation to Light+Building in Frankfurt.

Trade Supplier Level 2 Apprenticeship officially available to businesses in England. It's the culmination of 2.5 years' work by the 'Trailblazers'.

12 EDA Product Knowledge Modules launch complete with City & Guilds' Accreditation.

2015

Taking Stock, the EDA's quarterly newsletter, launches.

Work starts by the 'Trailblazers' - a group of like-minded employers - to create a new apprenticeship for the sector: This would become Trade Supplier Level 2.

New EDA Training Awards introduced.

EDA relocates from Tunbridge Wells in Kent to Barons Court, West London.

2017

The IBA Buying Group joins the Association, and membership grows to 236.

EDA joins ETIM International and begins a programme of educating the supply chain on the benefits of a product data standard.

Working Groups take place to create the new Product Knowledge Modules. Volunteer experts from EDA businesses work together to create the training, pooling their knowledge which, collectively, adds up to hundreds of years of experience.

From west to east, and a new EDA HQ in Rotherwick House near the Tower of London.

2019

First Digitalisation Forum is held, and the EDA and BMF agree to become partners in ETIM UK Ltd.

In September the EDA Product Knowledge Modules receive CPD approval. This means learners can claim a Continuing Professional Development certificate as well as their City & Guilds certificate when achieving a Pass, Credit or Distinction.

CELEBRATING 110 YEARS OF SERVICE

2020

The Covid pandemic and virtual meetings abound. Talking Shop Dialogues keep the supply chain talking and the results of the first State of the Sector Surveys are published.

EDA's online Covid Hub springs up: an online resource packed with information to help EDA business to keep trading.

EDATA data pool launches with 25 founder members working to shape its development (10 wholesalers and 15 manufacturers).

2022

Princess Royal Training Award for the EDA Product Knowledge Modules.

EDATA data pool is free to every EDA wholesaler business, and the on-demand Product Data Sheets feature is introduced.

The inaugural Power It Up: EDA Industry Insight Conference held in Birmingham.

2024

EDATA data pool wins Innovation of the Year at the Trade Association Forum Awards.

EDATA is in its fifth year and growing rapidly: 90+ leading brands share high quality product data on over 260,000 SKUs with EDA wholesalers.

Membership stands at 260 Wholesaler Members and 122 Affiliates, and is still growing.

Leading the second delegation to Light+Building in Frankfurt.

Second Power It Up Conference scheduled for November in Crewe.

2021

Affiliated Manufacturers' Insight Group meet for the first time.

Covid lockdowns mean the EDA Annual Awards Dinner moves to September from its regular March slot.

2023

E-learning takes off and The EDA Academy launches with the interactive versions of the 12 EDA Product Knowledge Modules inside.

100 TO 110
— YEARS —

2014



The centenary year for the Association and on a sweltering June day the celebrations took place at The Orangery at Kensington Palace. BEMCO's Simon Barks was President and Director Ray Evans attended his last EDA event. At the time of the centenary we had 98 member wholesalers compared to 260 today, with 57 affiliated members and 121 today.

In 2014 the EDA Board comprised:

Back Row, Left to Right:

Tom Jones, Lockwell Electrical, Vice Chairman;
Terry Yallop, CEF;
Margaret Fitzsimons, Incoming EDA Director;
Simon Barks, BEMCO, President and
Chairman of the Board;
Ray Evans, Outgoing EDA Director;
Ray Smith, Edmundson Electrical Ltd

Front Row, Left to Right:

Martin Whitby, Rexel UK;
David Schofield, Steam Electric Co Ltd;
Chris Gibson, Rexel UK;
Bob Robertson, R&B Star

Not pictured - Geoff Kerly, KEW Electrical and
Andrew Johnson, LEW Electrical Distributors, who
were elected to their Board positions at that meeting



To commemorate its hundredth birthday the EDA published a detailed history looking back at the creation of The Electrical Wholesalers' Federation (EWF) by five enlightened men. The aim of this new body was 'to protect the interests of bona fide electrical wholesalers from any action or dispute between themselves, manufacturers and retailers.'

They were:

F. Sumner-Smith	B.E.E.Co Ltd
Mr. Feld (sic)	Feld Brothers
R.W. Smith	Drake & Gorham
A.G. Beaver	Electric Co
A.F. Leslie	(Asst. to Mr S-Smith, Acting Hon. Sec.)

In June Margaret Fitzsimons joins as EDA Director.

In November the group of volunteer Education and Training Ambassadors met for the first time.

Changes to the Board



Andy Johnson of LEW Electrical Distributors joins the EDA board



Geoff Kerly of KEW Electrical joins the EDA Board

Elsewhere:

- Ebola epidemic starts in West Africa
- Winter Olympics in Sochi
- President Obama restores diplomatic relations with Cuba



Ambassadors meet for the first time with a remit to support the EDA in the development and promotion of all our training programmes.

100 TO 110
— YEARS —
2015



Top row left to right

Darren Hayes, KEW Electrical Distributors Ltd
Dr Andrew Robertson, R & B Star (Electrical Wholesalers) Ltd, part of the ANEW buying group
Gerald O'Hare, CEF Ltd
Ian Pegrum, Newey & Eyre, now Rexel UK Ltd

Bottom row left to right

Darren Coppola, Scott Coppola Electrical Distributors Ltd (Edmundson Electrical Ltd)
Kevin Heap, GA Nicholas (Edmundson Electrical Ltd)
Lynne Anderson, Lincs Electrical Wholesalers Ltd, now LEVW Electrical Distributors, part of the AWEBB buying group
Paul Sawyer, Edmundson Electrical Ltd
Robin Scott, Steam Electric Co Ltd



In March we launched a new look for the Education and Training Awards. Managers received their trophies at the Annual Awards Dinner, and a new Learning Achievement Awards lunch at London's iconic Shard celebrated those who had delivered an outstanding performance in their modules or apprenticeship. Today these celebrations remain a much-anticipated fixture in the EDA's calendar:

Issue 1 of Taking Stock, the EDA's quarterly newsletter, is printed and circulated. Still a mainstay of the Association's communications programme, Taking Stock keeps EDA businesses up to date on benefits and opportunities.

The EDA team headed to the Glynhill Hotel in Renfrew for the first Regional Business Forum on Scottish soil, timed to coincide with the Sportsman's Dinner that evening.



March 2015

Tom Jones of Lockwell Electrical takes over as EDA President



On the training front, representatives from a cross-section of EDA businesses come together to start work on developing a new apprenticeship standard for the sector. The group - known as the 'Trailblazers', and led by Rexel's Vicky Ordish - will work together for more than two years to develop an apprenticeship, which everyone now knows as Trade Supplier Level 2, one of the most popular apprenticeships for EDA businesses.

As the year draws to its close, the EDA moves from Tunbridge Wells in Kent to a new HQ at Lincoln House in west London close to Hammersmith. The Association also bids a fond farewell to Joanna Key, Training and Marketing Manager, and Lynn Ellis, Accounts and Events Manager, as they chose not to relocate.

The Chair of the EDA's Scottish Section is invited to participate in Board meetings to represent the interests of the Scottish Members. Typically the Scottish Section Chair changes annually.

Changes to the Board



Alan Dunnet of Holland House Electrical Co Ltd joins the EDA Board to represent Members in Scotland.

Elsewhere:

- Conservatives win UK general election: David Cameron is new PM
- Sepp Blatter resigns from FIFA amid corruption allegations
- A Hawker Hunter failed to complete a loop-the-loop and crashes on to the A27 near the Shoreham Air Show in West Sussex killing 11 people

100 TO 110
— YEARS —

2016



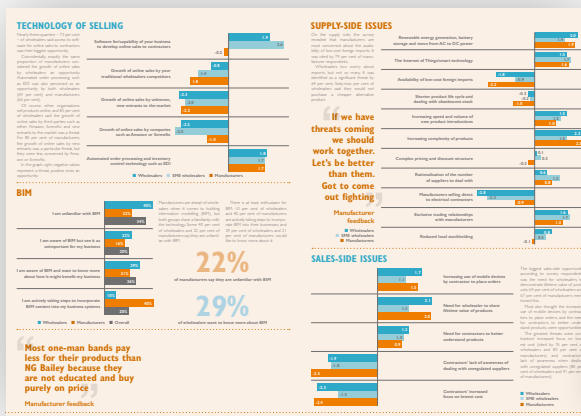
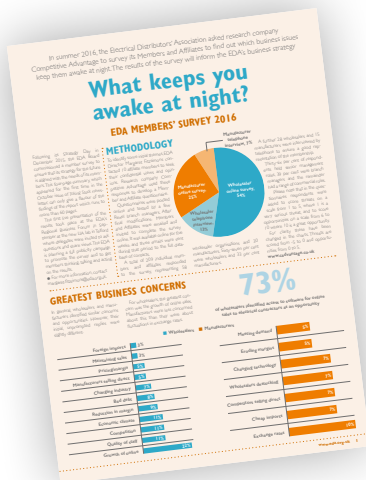
Mark Lambert, CEO of AWEBB



New year and a new home for the EDA: now at Lincoln House in west London, sharing office space with the ECA and the Building Engineering Services Association (BESA).

In January the Association welcomed 50 wholesaler businesses from the AWEBB buying group. Twenty-one of AWEBB's 72 companies had already been EDA members since 2011, but the group voted to bring all the companies into the Association. This welcome decision boosted the total membership count to 152 wholesaler businesses.

In the summer the EDA embarks on a major piece of research: 'What keeps you awake at night?' polled wholesalers and manufacturers on their biggest business concerns including the technology of selling, BIM, supply-side issues, sales staff issues, and the benefits of the distributor/manufacturer relationship. The results were published in a special edition of Taking Stock, the EDA's quarterly newsletter.





As a theme of his Presidency, Tom Jones, takes every opportunity to reiterate the message that the relationship between manufacturers and wholesalers is crucial to supply chain success.

On 1 December, with Capital Investment approved by the Board, a Steering Group of wholesalers meet to kick off a major new project: the new Product Knowledge Module programme, in partnership with the IET. The group agreed titles and work plan for the programme that continues to be a major pillar of the EDA's work today. The Steering Group comprises:

Andy Johnson (AWEBS), **Chris Ashworth** (CEF), **Peter Simm** (EEL), **Alan Reynolds** (Fegime), **Paul Thompson** (Rexel UK), **Andrew Smith** (Stearn Electric Co Ltd), **Craig Hiepner** (Deta representing EDA Affiliates), **Tara West**, **Andrew Cooney** (IET), **Margaret Fitzsimons** (EDA), **Simone Fonseca** (EDA)

In July, the EDA hears that Trade Supplier Level 2 Apprenticeship on which work started in 2015 passed a major hurdle and had been approved by government. By March 2018 Trade Supplier Apprenticeship would be finally available to businesses in England.

Changes to the Board



Chris Ashworth of CEF joins the EDA Board, replacing Terry Yallop.



Dan Poole of Phase Electrical Distributors Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Geoff Kerly.



Elsewhere:

- EU Referendum held on 23 June: 51.89% voted to leave the EU
- Olympic Games held in Rio
- In November Donald Trump wins US Election

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2017



Starting on a high note as 73 wholesaler businesses from The IBA Buying Group join the Association. The IBA's Paul Jenner and Margaret Fitzsimons shake hands on the deal, and membership grows to 236 wholesaler businesses.

EDA joins ETIM International, becoming the UK country member for the promotion and support of the ETIM data standard in the electrotechnical sector.

On the afternoon of March's Annual Dinner 55 representatives from EDA wholesaler and manufacturer businesses gather at the InterContinental Hotel to hear from President Simon Barks about the logical and unambiguous ETIM data standard and why the EDA is backing it. With ETIM firmly launched, the EDA embarks on a programme of free ETIM audits advising businesses how to implement the standard.

Later that same day, 578 guests gather in the Hotel's ballroom for the Annual Awards Dinner.



ETIM
International



March 2017

Simon Barks of BEMCO – British Electrical and Manufacturing Company – takes over as EDA President

- In April, the government announces its apprenticeship levy requiring all employers in the UK with an annual wage bill of £3 million to pay 0.5% of it towards funding apprenticeships. Employers in England can set up an online account to manage their funds and invest in training for apprentices working for them.



- December marked the launch of a brand new apprenticeship for the sector - Trade Supplier Level 2 - and the culmination of two-and-a-half years' work by the 'Trailblazers', a group of employers, large and small, coming together to create a new apprenticeship for the sector. The 'Trailblazers' were initially led by the EDA, with Rexel's Vicky Ordish chairing the group, before being joined later by the Builders Merchants Federation (BMF) with some of their leading members. By April 2024, 207 people have studied this apprenticeship through the EDA's Apprenticeship Service.
- Working Groups take place to create the new Product Knowledge Modules. Volunteer experts from EDA businesses work together to create the training, pooling their knowledge which, collectively, adds up to hundreds of years of experience and expertise.

Changes to the Board



Dave Huggin of E.D.S. Electrical joins the EDA Board to represent The IBA Buying Group.



Glyn Prestwood of Edmundson Electrical Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Ray Smith.

Elsewhere:

- 72 are killed in the Grenfell Tower blaze
- Theresa May takes over as PM
- Prince Harry and Meghan Markel become engaged

100 TO 110
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2018

light+building



- The EDA moves to Rotherwick House near Tower Bridge in the eastern corner of London and is co-located with several other industry bodies including the ECA, BEAMA, and the Electrical Industries Charity.
- Work on Anglicising the ETIM standard for UK products gets underway with groups of product experts meeting to discuss the classification terminology.
- In March the EDA leads its first ever visiting delegation to the global Light+Building expo in Frankfurt. The delegation comprises senior wholesalers and influential contractors from the Presidential teams at the ECA and SELECT. The 2-day visit supported those affiliate manufacturers exhibiting, and offered as many networking opportunities as possible, including an over-subscribed LIA-sponsored dinner. 'Awe-inspiring', 'eye-opening' and 'blister-inducing' are just some of the words used by delegates to describe their experiences at the exhibition. Due to Covid disruption it would be 2024 before the EDA returned to Light+Building.
- Also in March, the Trade Supplier Level 2 apprenticeship becomes available to businesses in England.

INSTITUTE FOR
APPRENTICESHIPS

Vicky Ordish
Roxel UK Ltd

By email

10th April 2018

Dear Vicky

Final funding band decision for Trade Supplier standard, Ref: ST0334

The Institute wrote to you in February to say that our final funding band recommendation for your standard was band 6 (upper limit £4,000). This recommendation was then made to the Department for Education.

The Department for Education has accepted the Institute's recommendation and allocated your standard to funding band 6. The final funding band for your standard is confirmed as band 6 (upper limit £4,000), and your standard is now approved for delivery.

As explained in February's letter, there is no appeal against the final decision taken by the Department for Education. The Institute will keep funding bands of all apprenticeship standards under ongoing review. Where we intend to recommend changes, we will notify Trailblazer employers in advance.

On behalf of the Institute, I'd like to warmly congratulate all those involved in your trailblazer for successfully creating this new apprenticeship for your sector. We wish you every success with its delivery. The Institute is very grateful for the hard work and dedication you have shown throughout the process, which is a direct result of the commitment, expertise and insight which you have brought to the process. We hope this achievement is a great source of pride for you.

Should you have any questions or comments please contact Sarah, Relationship Manager, who continues to be your main point of contact at the Institute.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne McCann
Deputy Director, Funding Policy Team

On behalf of the Institute, I'd like to warmly congratulate all those involved in your trailblazer for successfully creating this new apprenticeship for your sector. We wish you every success with its delivery. The Institute is very grateful for all of the time, hard work and dedication you have shown throughout the process. Your success is a direct result of the commitment, expertise and insight which you have generously brought to the process. We hope this achievement is a great source of pride for you.



In May the EDA headed to Belfast for the first Regional Business Forum in Ireland. In 2024, almost to the day, we make a return visit.

By the summer the first of the new EDA Product Knowledge Modules are available. For two years prior, product experts from EDA business worked with the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) to create the training content. The IET managed the process and commissioned an expert author for each training course. Since 2018 the modules have gone from strength to strength, accolades include a Princess Royal Training Award in 2022 and over 8,900 modules have been ordered by EDA business to date.

Summer sees the first appearance of the EDA's (in)famous Engagement-O-Meter and its high tech calculations determining the member and affiliate engagement points each year.

Changes to the Board



Charlie Lacey of Stearn Electric Co Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing David Schofield.



Elsewhere:

- Construction giant Carillion fails
- Russian spies in Novichok attack in Salisbury, and Putin is elected for a fourth term
- Royal news: Prince Louis is born, Prince Harry and Meghan marry
- Notable departures: Professor Stephen Hawking and Dale Winton

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YEARS

2019



APPRENTICESHIPS
PLUS



The year opens with the publication of the BS 7671 18th Edition Wiring Regulations.

The EDA publishes the first in a series of White Papers on digitalisation topics. Authored by Richard Appleton, the EDA's Head of Digitalisation, the first title 'Effective E-Commerce: 3 product data essentials for electrical wholesalers', is still available to download for free from www.eda.org.uk and is one of a series of 5 titles.

In July the 2000th apprentice to join the electrotechnical sector through the EDA's Apprenticeship Service is announced: Jonathan McArdle at Edmundson Electrical's Middlesbrough branch was studying on Trade Supplier Level 2 apprenticeship.

The wholesale counter provides the sole source of in-person information for today's contactors, says the EDA's first major sector-wide research project since 2016's 'What keeps you awake at night?'. This new sector-wide survey gathered views on people, prices and products from the three-step supply-chain: manufacturers, wholesalers and contractors. The results were published in full as part of the Association's new-look Yearbook.



March 2019

Chris Gibson of Rexel UK
takes over as EDA President



- In December the first Digitalisation Forum is held, attracting over 100 delegates from EDA businesses. Jan Janse, President of the Board at ETIM International (above left), flies over to join us as did Marc Habets, their Technical Director (above middle).
- As part of the Forum, the EDA and BMF sign to become partners in a new legal entity - ETIM UK Ltd. This independent organisation will champion the development and implementation of the ETIM data model in this country, with the EDA and BMF leading in their respective sectors.

Changes to the Board



Simon Booth of ETC Electrical Supplies joins the EDA board, replacing Dave Huggin.

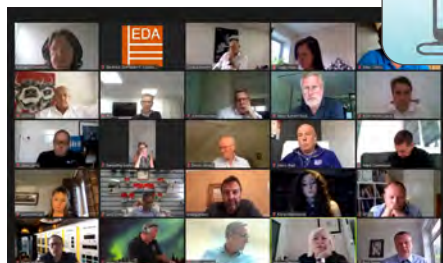


Elsewhere:

- Fire devastates Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris
- Scientists release the first-ever image of a black hole
- PM Theresa May resigns and is succeeded by Boris Johnson

100 TO 110
— YEARS —

2020



“Every business would be worse off without the work the EDA has done on our behalf,” said Paul Jenner, CEO, at The IBA Buying Group.



bsi. *...making excellence a habit*
BSI guide to masks and face coverings for use in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic



CLC Construction Leadership Council

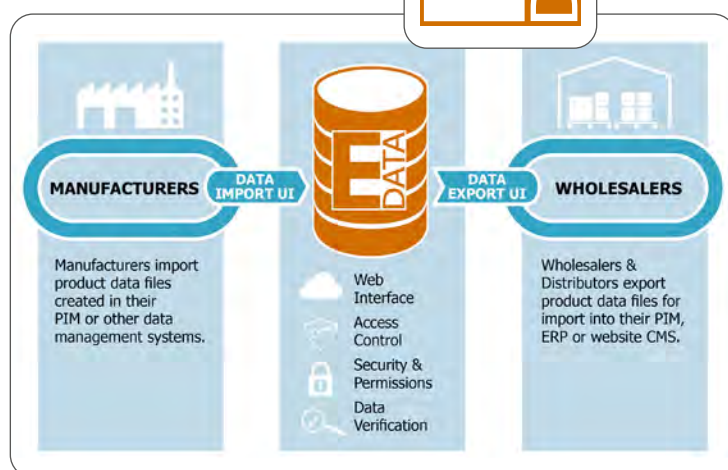
The EDATA data pool launches with the support of 25 Founders (10 wholesalers and 15 manufacturers). Founder representatives take their seat on the EDATA Steering Group to guide its strategic development, with Edgar Aponte as Chair of EDA Data Services. The EDA gets to work (virtually) supporting manufacturers to create high quality product data: manufacturer master data, digital assets, and technical attributes. Jump forward to 2024 and there are 90+ manufactures in EDATA and over 260,000 SKUs available for wholesalers.

Slightly smaller than normal, our Annual Dinner made it just under the wire before the first national lockdown on 23 March.

As lockdown is declared the EDA team springs into action creating a Covid hub on the website to give businesses ready access to information and resources to continue trading.

The creation of the Talking Shop Dialogues kept the supply chain in conversation, and in March the first of many State of the Sector Surveys polled wholesalers and manufacturers for their views on business challenges and how the EDA might help.

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) becomes the link to government through which the EDA receives much information.



January 2020

Chris Ashworth of CEF takes over as EDA President

EDATA data pool: Wholesaler Founders



EDATA data pool: Manufacturer Founders



- The EDA joins CLC Working Groups including their Product Availability Group, helping to provide important information for the supply chain.
- A new category of Affiliation launches: Solution Providers (businesses offering technology services such as ERP, e-commerce websites, PIM systems, etc) are important strategic allies in the drive to digitalise the sector.
- The UKCA mark is high on manufacturers' agenda, with announcements from government on a phased in approach through 2021-2023.
- In November ETIM, the technical data standard, releases version 8.0, and the Association's LinkedIn account reaches 3,000 followers.



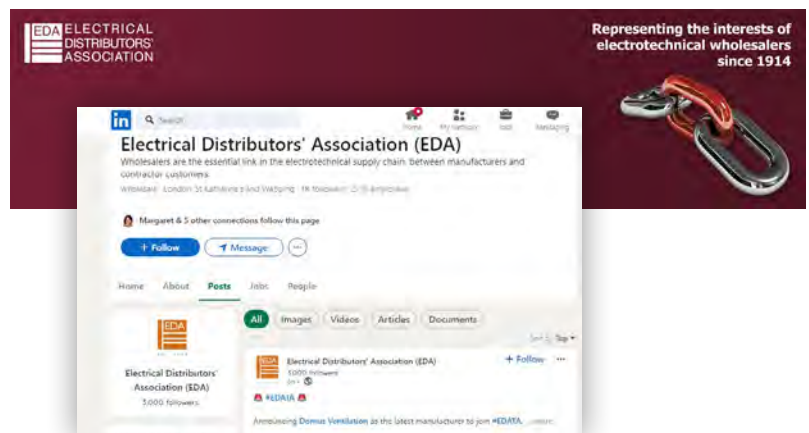
Changes to the Board



Edgar Aponte of Rexel UK Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Chris Gibson.



Richard McCartney of Edmundson Electrical Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Glyn Prestwood.



Elsewhere:

- The Covid 19 Pandemic: "Stay at home" UK told as first lockdown begins on 23 March
- George Floyd killed by police officers in Minneapolis
- In November, Democrat Joe Biden is elected the 46th President of the United States of America

100 TO 110
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2021



KICKSTART[®]
SCHEME



January saw the first meeting of the EDA's Affiliate Manufacturers Insight Group (AMIG). This group of volunteers meet with representatives of the EDA Board and team to provide the manufacturers' point of view on issues facing the supply chain. Elections to this group are every two years: the second group convened in 2023, with nominations opening again 2025.

In September 2020 the government launched their £2 billion Kickstart scheme which was to run all this year, aiming to get the 16-24 age group into work.

As the nation navigated the various stages of lockdown, the EDA was fortunate to be able to hold a Summer Event, but at a new venue – Trinity Buoy Wharf – allowing for better social distancing. The sun shone and everyone was delighted to be back.

Gold Standard Product Data became a benchmark of quality for manufacturers subscribed to the EDATA data pool. The Gold badge is still much sought after and 50 have achieved it so far.

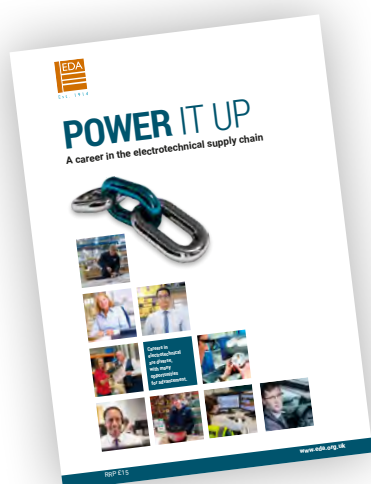


EUEW european union
of electrical wholesalers



Elsewhere:

- Sir Tom Moore dies at the age of 100
- Jackie Weaver is famous after ill-tempered parish council meeting goes viral
- Suez Canal is blocked for 6 days after huge cargo ship ran aground



- It was a red letter year for the EDA's training programme: in April a new Trade Counter Merchandising Course was launched to help EDA businesses learn how customers make choices in visually complex environments by applying tried and tested merchandising techniques to boost sales.
- In August it was announced that the 12 Product Knowledge Modules had won a Princess Royal Training Award. The EDA was one of only 46 organisations to receive the Award. Later that year, Margaret Fitzsimons, CEO; Tracy Hewett, Head of Education and Training; and Alan Reynolds, CEO at Fegime UK and an Education and Training Ambassador, headed to Banqueting House (an Historic Royal Palace) to receive the Award from HRH.
- The EDATA Steering Group, comprising representatives from the 25 founder wholesalers and manufacturers, meets in person for the first time in two years to discuss the data pool's progress and share ideas for its development.
- The EDA launched 'Power It Up' a new career guide. A Working Group of wholesalers and manufacturers helped in its creation, highlighting the rewarding careers available in the electrotechnical supply chain. The guide is available to download at www.eda.org.uk and is a great resource for your new starters or as part of your recruitment process.
- In May ETIM UK Ltd (a joint venture with the EDA and BMF) held a panel discussion in front of a large audience at Digital Construction Week at London's ExCeL. Highlighting the contribution that the ETIM standard plays in building safety, the session 'The Golden Thread – the role of merchants, distributors, and wholesalers' called for a more joined up approach to product data.





Off to Dublin for the Association of Electrical Wholesalers' (AEW) training awards where Tracy Hewett was a guest presenter. The AEW, Ireland's equivalent to the EDA and headed by Ken Legros, has access to the EDA's Product Knowledge Modules. Twelve worthy winners received their trophies from Tracy in recognition of outstanding module results.

November saw the Association's inaugural Power It Up one-day conference, attracting more than 170 manufacturer, wholesaler, and contractor delegates. An international speaker programme, lively panel discussions, and plenty of networking opportunities contributed to the success of the conference which will be held again on Wednesday 13 November 2024.



ETIM International released version 9.0 of the data standard.

Changes to the Board



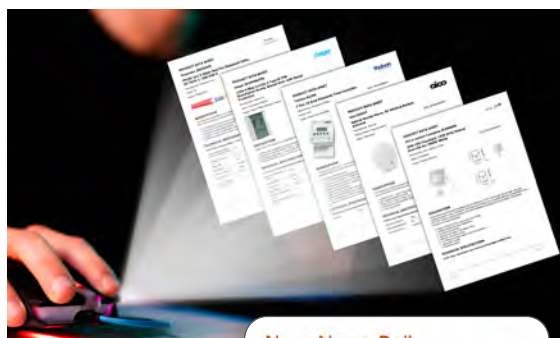
David Moore of Medlock Electrical Distributors joins the EDA Board, replacing Simon Barks.

Elsewhere:

- Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II dies on 8 September
- The UK has 3 Prime Ministers: Boris Johnson, Liz Truss, and Rishi Sunak
- Russia invades Ukraine



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YEARS
2023



It's a year crammed with digital initiatives. The EDATA data pool goes from strength to strength, with all EDA Wholesalers and their branches now benefitting from free access to product data from leading manufacturers all in one hub. In a new data pool feature, individual PDF Product Data Sheets can be created on demand in a consistent format for printing, emailing to contractors/electricians, and including in Operation & Maintenance Manuals. The Alarm Bell feature is introduced too, allowing wholesalers to ping a message straight to the manufacturer if they spot a product data error:

In May there's a Main Stage debut for ETIM UK (a partnership between the EDA and the Builders Merchants Federation) at Digital Construction Week. Dame Judith Hackitt draws the crowds leading a presentation and panel discussion on 'Why standardised product data and building safety are inextricably linked'. Taking part in the panel are:

- Manufacturer: **Nico van der Merwe**, CEO, Signify UK and Ireland
- Merchant: **Frank Elkins**, Chief Operating Officer, Travis Perkins Plc
- House Builder: **Angus Macdonald**, Founder and CEO, Galion
- Major Contractor: **Stephen Jeffery**, Chief Technical Officer, Mace

Following the presentation ETIM UK hosts a Networking Reception for invited guests.

The EDA's award-winning 12 Product Knowledge Modules are digitally transformed too, making their appearance as e-learning options via The EDA Academy, our new Learning Management System (LMS). Brought to life by over 1,500 videos and interactive features, the training modules are more popular than ever with EDA businesses. The EDA Academy is fast becoming a training hub for the sector as clever technical links connect the e-learning inside with other e-learning environments.



March 2023

Charlie Lacey of Stearn Electric Co Ltd takes over as EDA president



- The EDA publishes the results of its Digitalisation Survey, providing valuable market information and insight into the current state of digitalisation in the UK electrotechnical supply chain, with a specific focus on Wholesalers and Manufacturers and the sale and distribution of electrotechnical products.
- Improving the data analysis skills of EDA businesses is at the heart of the launch of a new Data Is Power apprenticeship programme, and the first cohort starts in autumn of this year.
- Managers interested in the EDA's Apprenticeship Service can now download a new comprehensive guide from www.eda.org.uk
- Also on the training front, and in response to feedback about the rise in customer late payments, a new course is launched to help EDA businesses prevent exposure to bad debt. This one day training course 'Collection Success: Solutions for Improving Cash Flow' continues to run in 2024 in partnership with the Chartered Institute of Credit Management.
- The EDA's four pillars of support for businesses are formalised.
- **Changes to the Board**



Mark Ashworth of ABM Electrical Wholesale Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Simon Booth.



Elsewhere:

- King Charles and Queen Camilla are crowned in a ceremony on 6 May.
- The Titan submersible carrying five people imploded in the North Atlantic while on a deep sea extreme tourism visit to the wreckage of the Titanic.
- India surpasses China as the most populous nation.

100 TO 110
— YEARS —
2024

EDATA is crowned
Innovation of the Year
2024



Margaret Fitzsimons, CEO at the EDA said of the win, "This Award is a welcome endorsement of the work the EDA is doing to digitalise the UK's electrotechnical sector. To win it from among 170 leading UK trade associations was a very proud moment for us."



EDATA is free to every EDA Wholesaler thanks to the commitment of these EDATA Sponsors

EDATA Wholesaler Sponsors

Bemco, BDO ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTIONS, CEF, EDWARDS & KELCEY, regime, ibo, LEW, R&M, rexel, STEAM 100 years

EDATA Manufacturer Sponsors

ABB, aico, Ansell, CEMBRE, collingwood, deta+, EATON, electrium, DCDimplex, hager, LEWANCE, legrand, Marshall Tuffex, prysman, Schneider Electric, THORN LIGHTING, Vent-Axia

- This year gets off to a great start as the EDATA data pool is crowned Innovation of the Year at the Trade Association Forum Awards.
- Now in its fifth year the EDATA data pool is expanding rapidly. Over 90 leading brands, and counting, subscribe to share their high quality product data with wholesalers. It is thanks to the data pool's sponsors that access is free for every EDA wholesaler and branch.
- It's back to Frankfurt's Light+Building in March, our first visit since 2018, with a large group of senior wholesalers and representatives from trade associations along the supply chain. Plans are already in place to visit the world's leading trade fair for lighting and building services technology again in 2026.



January 2024
Chris Ashworth of CEF
takes over as EDA President



That same week in March it was our Annual Awards Dinner and the Learning Achievement Awards.

April sees the launch of a new-look for Taking Stock, the EDA's quarterly newsletter.

In May we head back to Belfast for the first Forum of 2024, returning there after a gap of 6 years.

Once again, ETIM UK is presenting at Digital Construction Week, this time on the topic of the ETIM Modelling Class and its potential for revolutionising the creation of 3D BIM objects in the UK.

Membership and Affiliation is growing strongly. EDA Wholesaler Membership stands at 260 businesses, with 121 Affiliate Manufacturers, Solution Providers and Service Providers.

And we're only half way through the year...

Changes to the Board



Keith Avenell of 3 Line Electrical joins the EDA Board, replacing Andy Johnson.



Tom Barton of Edmundson Electrical Ltd joins the EDA Board, replacing Richard McCartney.



Glyn Prestwood of Stearn Electric Co Ltd rejoins the EDA Board, replacing Charlie Lacey.



Elsewhere:

- PM Rishi Sunak calls a general election for Thursday 4 July 2024
- First conviction of a sitting or former US president as Donald Trump is found guilty
- Olympic Games opens in Paris this summer

CELEBRATING
110
YEARS OF SERVICE



A word from the CEO

It's amazing what can be achieved with a committed and supportive Board and a talented and driven team. Over the past 10 years, the EDA Board has approved important initiatives that have brought long-term value for members and will serve our sector for years to come.

One of the most important of these has been the investment in the Product Knowledge Module Programme. Initially designed as a suite of textbooks in 2018, a further investment in 2021 has made the content available digitally on a new learning platform called The EDA Academy. This is now a central hub for training available to individuals or integrated into the Learning Management Systems (LMS) of member organisations. It is becoming richer as new CPD training is added to it and will be an ever more important part of upskilling our sector.

Another major investment has been in the industry data pool, EDATA, and its underlying data classification system, ETIM. This is already transforming the way the sector creates, manages and shares its data, now becoming integrated into wholesaler business systems. Its importance will grow as it is enriched with new brands and categories of data being added.

The Board is right behind the EDA's four pillar strategy that focuses on bringing the sector together as a Business Community, sharing Industry Insight, Digitalisation, and Education & Training.

Their vision is shared and enabled by the talented team at the EDA who are experts in their fields and strive constantly to support members. It's great to have been a part of it for the past 10 years.

Margaret Fitzsimons

CEO, EDA

Business Community



Nancy Adolpho
Executive Assistant



Diana Gaina
Marketing & Events Executive

Industry Insight



Anne Vessey
Head of Marketing & Communications

Education & Training



Tracy Hewett
Head of Education & Training



Sabina Shald
Education & Training Administrator

Digitalisation



Richard Appleton
Head of Digitalisation



Javier Garcia
Head of Systems & Processes/Onboarding & Data Manager



Billy Overall
Digitalisation Marketing Manager



Brigitte Evans
Customer Success Manager

EDA Board of Management

All experienced senior leaders, the EDA Board represents the interests and views of the membership at a strategic level as well as helping to communicate and share the work of the Association across the sector.



EDA President

Chris Ashworth
CEF Ltd



EDA Vice President

David Moore
Medlock Electrical Distributors,
Representing ANEW



Edgar Aponte
Rexel UK Ltd



Mark Ashworth

ABM Electrical Wholesale Ltd,
Representing The IBA Buying
Group Ltd



Keith Avenell

3 Line Electrical Wholesale,
Representing AWEBB



Tom Barton

Edmundson Electrical Ltd



Margaret Fitzsimons

EDA



Dan Poole

Phase Electrical Distributors Ltd,
Representing Fegime UK



Glyn Prestwood

Steam Electric Co Ltd

The Chair of the EDA's Scottish Section, which typically changes annually, is invited to join the Board to represent the interests of members in Scotland.

EWF PRESIDENTS

1914/18



R.W. Smith
Drake & Gorham Wholesale.
London

1919



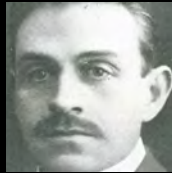
W. Donovan, MIEE
The Donovan Electrical Co.
Birmingham

1920



A. Albrecht
North British Engineering Equip.
Newcastle-on-Tyne

1921



H. Boden-How
Hallamshire Electric Co.
Sheffield

1922



A.G. Beaver
The Sun Electrical Co.
London

1923



G.O. Donovan, MIEE
The Donovan Electrical Co.
Birmingham

1924



J. Gledson
J. Gledson & Co.
Newcastle-on-Tyne

1932



J.W. Dodds
The EGS Co.
Newcastle-on-Tyne

1933



D. Foster
William White & Co.
London

1934



J.F. Irvine
J.F. Irvine & Co.
Dundee

1935



Alderman J. Mayall
Mayall & Co.
Birmingham

1936



H. Clarke
Hallamshire Electric Co.
Sheffield

1937



A.B. Wildsmith
Young & Wildsmith
London

1938



W. Yuille
William C. Yuille & Co.
Glasgow

1948



H. Riley
John Riley & Son (Electrical)
Sheffield

1949



J.W. Rutherford, FCIS
Adamson & Co.
Newcastle-on-Tyne

1950



J.M. Hollander, BSc, MIEE
Electro-Mechanical Supplies
Coventry

1951



W.J. Bensley
Sloan Electrical
London

1951



G.W. Cartwright
John T. Cartwright & Sons
Glasgow

1952



W.H. Swain
Hirst, Ibbetson & Taylor
Manchester

1953



E.A.V. Peckham
G.S. Peckham
London

1961



J.H. Hirst
Hirst, Ibbetson & Taylor
Manchester

1962



H.D. Denman
Denman Electrical Supplies
Bristol

1963



T.S. Weston
T. Stanley Weston & Co.
Glasgow

1964



A.R.A. Wood
E.A. Wood & R.A. Poole
Birmingham & Coventry

1965



N.S. Sellers, BSc, Ceng, MIEE
Caselo Ltd & Reay Electrical
Leeds & Stockton

1966



G.E. McIver
Lawson & Turnbull
Aberdeen

1967



R.W. Hollidge, FCIS
Stearn Electric
Newbury

1975



W. Balmford Jnr, BSc, FIEE, FSICA
Walter Balmford
London

1976



D.S. Rose, JP
The Wholesale Fittings Co.
London

1977



S.A. Secombe
Newey & Eyre
Birmingham

1978



D. Wilson
Walsall Conduits

1979



M.L. Beswetherick
Stearn Electric
Newbury

1980



F.S. Aldred
Edmundson Electrical
Knutsford

1981



L.H. Rose
The Wholesale Fittings plc
London

1990/91



John Neill
Robert Neill & Co.
Sheffield

1991/92



Stuart Dixon
Stuart Dixon Electrical Dist.
London

1992/93



Jim Banks
Russells Supplies

1993/94



Geoffrey Barks
BEMCO
London

1994/96



Bob Robertson
R&B Star (Electrical W/Salers)
Catford

1996/97



Stephen Rose
The Wholesale Fittings Co.
London

1997/98



Syd Willkie
William C. Yuille & Co.
Glasgow

2011/13



Brian Smithers
WF Electrical plc
Dagenham

2013



Dean Henry
ElectraBrands (Eldis)
Birmingham

2013/15



Simon Barks
BEMCO
London

2015/17



Tom Jones
Lockwell Electrical
Warwick

2017/19



Simon Barks
BEMCO
London

2019

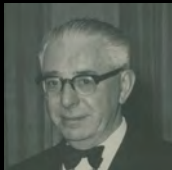


Chris Gibson
Rexel UK Ltd
National

2019/23



Chris Ashworth
CEF
National

1925  A. Holman Holman & Co. (Engineers) Glasgow	1926  G.P. Dennis, MIEE G.P. Dennis Liverpool	1927  F.C. Barnett The Wholesale Fittings Co. London	1928  T. Stetton, MIEE, MIMechE Haslam & Stetton Cardiff	1929  J. Wilson Jarvis Bros. Middlesbrough	1930  A. Albrecht North British Engineering Equip. Newcastle-on-Tyne	1931  Alderman G. Harold White Central Electric Co. Manchester
1939  W.R. Gledson, BSc J. Gledson & Co. Newcastle-on-Tyne	1940  T.D. Woods Downes & Davies Liverpool	1941/42  A.G. Beaver The Sun Electrical Co. London	1943/44  A. Glenister Holland House Electrical Co. Glasgow	1945  W.H. Swain Hirst, Ibbetson & Taylor Newcastle-on-Tyne	1946  C. Hall Marr The EGS Co. Newcastle-on-Tyne	1947  A.C. Baker, AMIEE Simpson Baker & Co. Bristol
1954  W. Crisp Young & Wildsmith London	1955  R.E. Silvey Santon (Wholesale) Newport, Wales	1956  T.D. Woods Downes & Davies Liverpool	1957  C.H. Blackburn, ERD, ADC E. Dawson (Lampfactors) London	1958  H. Riley John Riley & Son (Electrical) Sheffield	1959  F.J. Blackwell Electrical Wholesale Supply Leicester	1960  G. Conradi, MIEE British Central Electrical Co. London
1968  G.J. Yardley, FACCA Newey & Eyre Birmingham	1969  F.J. Blackwell Electrical Wholesale Supply Leicester	1970  E.H. Maltby Edmundson Electrical Knutsford	1971  A.G. Denman Denman Electrical Supplies Bristol	1972  A.C. Mattock J. Dyson & Co	1973  J.H. Hirst Hirst, Ibbetson & Taylor Manchester	1974  B.R. Barkes BEMCO London
1982  A.S. Bevins STC Distributors	1983  F.A. Bartlam Rifina Co. Tewkesbury	1984  R.M. Gladson Newey & Eyre Birmingham	1985  J.E. Banks Russells Supplies	1986  M.J. Yarnall Walsall Conduits	1987  J.M. Scott Scott-Coppola Electrical Dist. Edinburgh	1988/89  J.B. Monks JBM Electrical Distributors

EDA PRESIDENTS

1998/99  Roy Henry Eldis Electrical Birmingham	1999/00  Richard Rose WF Electrical plc Dagenham	2001/02  Ray Evans Stearn Electric Newbury	2003/04  Nigel Power Rexel Senate Potters Bar	2004/06  Ray Evans Stearn Electric Newbury	2006/07  Russ Cama Hagemeyer (UK) Birmingham	2008/11  Martin Whitby Rexel Senate Potters Bar
2023  Charlie Lacey Stearn Electric Co Ltd National	2024/25  Chris Ashworth CEF Ltd National					

CELEBRATING
110
YEARS OF SERVICE

ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS' ASSOCIATION (EDA)



Founded in 1914, the EDA is the trade association for electrical wholesale distributors in the UK.

Wholesale distributors are the essential link between manufacturers of electrotechnical products and the electricians and electrical contractors who install them.



Electrical Distributors' Association (EDA)



@ElectricalDA



@EDA_UK