



# Evolution

## Innovating since 1969

**Welcome to the latest edition of RDS Evolution.** RDS has recently celebrated 40 years in the supply of electronics for mobile machinery. Looking back over these four decades, things have changed beyond recognition. In the early pioneering days, we had to create a market for our products - and customers thought that we must be crazy to even contemplate applying electronics to field machinery. Today things are very different: from road sweepers to slug pellet broadcasters; from ploughs to planters, everything has electronics!

Many examples of mobile machinery have not changed in basic principle for decades - or even centuries. Take for

example the agricultural grain drill - the basic function of this machine has remained unchanged since its introduction in 1701 by Jethro Tull - the famous English farmer and inventor. More and more, it is the application of electronics that differentiates competitors' machines.

The off-road machinery sector and the operating environment are not the easiest in which to work. RDS has met the challenge of supplying its customers with products designed to near-military specification in limited volumes at cost effective prices.

*Richard Danby - Managing Director*

[www.rdstec.com](http://www.rdstec.com)

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## Extreme Weighing

RDS prides itself on manufacturing instruments capable of working under extreme pressure in extreme conditions. One example of this sustained quality is a Loadmaster on-board weighing scale installed on a Terex 72-31B loader on the remote Argentine Marambio Base in Antarctica.

In what is often called the most inhospitable place on Earth, the Loadmaster has clearly proven its year-round durability in conditions sinking to -21°C in winter with a wind chill factor of -60°C and wind speeds up to 180 kmh. As Pedro Largel, an engineer at the base says, "The Loadmaster continues to help ensure that all safety



First installed by the Cordoba based distributors for RDS products - Metaltecnica, over a decade ago, the Loadmaster is principally used for loading the Hercules C-130 planes that form the transport links for incoming and outgoing supplies to and from the base. The safe loading of these aeroplanes is paramount as the 1300m runway on-site is constructed on permafrost ground which makes both landing and take-off extremely dangerous and difficult. This, coupled with the extreme weather experienced at the base, means the centre of gravity of the plane must be strictly adhered to for maximum performance and safety.

parameters of the supply planes are respected. In such harsh conditions, it has been instrumental in increasing the overall safety of our operations at the base."



## ....STOP PRESS....STOP PRESS

### Loadmaster 9000i achieves MID approval

RDS Technology is delighted to announce the Loadmaster 9000i on-board weighing system for wheeled loaders has successfully passed the rigorous European MID weights and measures approval tests (Measuring Instruments Directive 2004/22/EC). **More on page 3.**



### CLAAS choose RDS for Tucano 480 testing

In order to monitor output during field testing of the new Tucano 480 combine with hybrid rotary threshing system, Claas requested that all three test machines in the UK were fitted with the Ceres 8000i yield monitoring system from RDS Technology.

The Tucano 480 is the first single-rotor hybrid combine to feature in the company's harvest line-up and the use of the Ceres in these tests continues the association between Claas and RDS for yield monitoring solutions on the Tucano range.

**Continued on page 2.**

## ...Claas choose RDS Ceres 8000i for testing continued

...The Tucano 480 has been a great success in the field and the use of the Ceres has allowed Claas to quantify the performance boost seen on the new model, achieving up to 45 tonnes per hour of wheat. The Ceres is also popular with the combine drivers at the Denham Estate test farm near Bury St Edmunds, managed by Sentry Farms, being described as "very easy to use," and "an excellent piece of kit to have in the cab."



Tom Pine, Combine Product Manager for Claas UK, confirmed the need for the Ceres, saying, "For testing the Tucano 480, we required good measurement of yield and chose RDS due to the ease of use of their monitors for our trial combines and the reliability of their system as proved over the years we have worked together. The Ceres instrument has allowed us to see real benefits when harvesting and provided tangible proof of the increased performance seen in the Tucano 480."

## Turbojet control in from RDS

In recent years the adoption of minimal tillage techniques has escalated, especially for the establishment of oilseed rape both here in the UK and Europe.



For Stocks Ag this was an ideal market for their TurboJet seeder but operators wanted more control and functionality from the seeder's controller which prompted Stocks Ag to contact RDS for a solution.

Using the generic Wizard instrument RDS developed a control/monitor system, the main function being to control the speed of the electric metering motor proportional to forward speed. Additional functionality included operation and monitoring of the electric fans, low hopper level alarm and area recording.

Rick Parker, Sales Director for Stocks Ag says 'The Wizard system has rejuvenated

our Turbojet machine. It is simple, easy to use and calibrate, accurate and most importantly proven very popular with both customers and sales people'.

The Wizard system is now also offered by Stocks Ag on their MicroMeter seeder and RDS is currently developing a more advanced based solution that will enable a single instrument to control two applicators fitted on one machine. This will cater for the new growth in multi-product application, two products in one pass to further reduce establishment costs.

The continued aim to reduce the costs of growing crops has lead to a very beneficial co-operation between Stocks Ag and RDS.

[www.stocks-ag.co.uk](http://www.stocks-ag.co.uk)



## ...RDS Loadmaster 9000i achieves MID approval continued

...Known for the demanding nature of its testing standards, the MID approval for wheeled loaders supersedes the previous OIML certification. This means the Loadmaster 9000i conforms to Class Y(b) levels of accuracy, making it suitable for use in commercial transactions.

This approval is valid across the EU and other associated states meaning any approval carried out in the UK for example is valid for commercial use across the EU e.g. France or Germany or vice versa.



## RDS launches on-board weighing range for forklifts

RDS Technology recently launched a new range of cost-effective, affordable and easy-to-use on-board weighing systems for forklift trucks.

These systems are designed to be easy to use and maintain accuracy, which makes them ideal for load weighing in distribution centre, yard and warehouse environments, for check-weighing incoming/outgoing goods or where weight limits e.g. storage racks are critical.

The three instruments in the new range all use a hydraulic load sensor to measure the increase in system pressure and inform the operator of load. When the maximum permissible weight threshold is approached, and at the overload point, an alarm will sound to further inform the operator of load status. This helps the driver to avoid potential tip-over, increasing the safety of the forklift and surrounding warehouse.

**The Liftalert** is the first system in the range and displays weight as a percentage of the preset maximum capacity. Alongside the overload warning alarms, it features a visual bar graph indicating weight status.



**The Liftlog 100** is a progression of the Liftalert's functionality and displays load as a live weight. This permits the operator to safely load vehicles and storage systems without risk of exceeding the permitted weight capacity.

**The Liftlog 100+** offers load display as a live weight and a total function, which provides a time efficient means of check weighing pallets and goods. Such a function negates the need to travel to a floor-mounted platform scale often sited in a remote part of the warehouse.

Further complementing the weighing range is the **SID 200**. This is a speed and distance monitoring instrument that warns the operator when the vehicle travels in excess of the speed limit and logs occurrences of and distances travelled at overspeed in a PIN-protected memory.

[www.rdstec.com/standard-solutions](http://www.rdstec.com/standard-solutions)



## PRODUCT PROFILE Loadmaster 9000i

### Take your weighbridge with you

The RDS Loadmaster 9000i is a trade approved, on-board weighing system for all types of loader that enables the weight readings obtained from the instrument to be used directly for invoicing purposes, effectively turning the loader into a mobile weighbridge.



Using two pressure transducers in the lifting circuit, the Loadmaster 9000i turns hydraulic pressure readings into weight and allies this to other readings from a number of separate sensors. These include an oil temperature sensor to ensure the vehicle is working at the correct temperature, a bucket sensor to ensure that weight readings are taken with the bucket crowded to the correct position and also an angle sensor that ensures correct readings when weighing on rough or uneven terrain. The end result of this multiple-sensor combination ensures the weight readings conform to MID class Y(b) and OIML R51 and R76 levels of accuracy and within parameters that allow their use for the sale of goods.

The Loadmaster 9000i also benefits from an advanced weighing routine recently developed by RDS. Through the use of this new software algorithm, the effects of external factors such as vehicle bounce or uneven load can be significantly reduced.

[www.rdstec.com/standard-solutions](http://www.rdstec.com/standard-solutions)



## There's a buzz about RDS

David Smith from near Bristol, UK recently came to RDS with an unusual request. He had recently purchased a McHale F540 baler, however as a consequence of an operation on his hearing eight years ago he is deaf in one ear and partially deaf in the other. This meant he was having problems hearing the warning buzzer in his RDS control unit.

After discussing the issue with the Service Department at RDS, the instrument was customized to include a much louder buzzer and an additional LED for visual indication of baler status.

Mr Smith (pictured left with Tim Greaves – RDS Service Manager) was very happy with the results and extremely happy about how ready RDS were to help him get best use from his machine.



## Loadlog makes Construction Equipment Top 100



Independently selected from over 700 new products, the Loadlog range of on-board scales for loaders, was recently included in Construction Equipment's Top 100 feature that celebrates the most significant products brought to market over the preceding twelve months.

Rod Sutton, Editor in Chief of Construction Equipment magazine explains, "These awards serve to emphasize innovation and highlight manufacturers who are investing in research and development. Their investments pay off for equipment users in the form of greater productivity, efficiency and safety."

President of Loup Electronics Inc, the RDS distributor for the USA, Darrell Farmer (pictured left receiving the award) said, "We are delighted that the Loadlog has been recognised by such a respected publication as Construction Equipment. This is further proof of the strength of the brand and the high regard in which our systems are held in the industry."

## Forthcoming exhibitions

RDS will be exhibiting at the following events:

### 2010

**LAMMA** - Nottinghamshire, UK

**AGG1** - Ohio, USA

**BAUMA** - Munich, Germany

**CEREALS** - Cambridgeshire, UK

**HILLHEAD** - Derbyshire, UK

**DAIRY &**

**LIVESTOCK SHOW** - Warwickshire, UK

**IMHX** - Birmingham, UK

### 2011

**LAMMA** - Nottinghamshire, UK

**SIMA** - Paris, France

**CONEXPO** - Las Vegas, USA

**CEREALS** - Cambridgeshire, UK

**BATIMAT** - Paris, France

**AGRITECHNICA** - Hanover, Germany



Please check [www.rdstec.com/exhibitions](http://www.rdstec.com/exhibitions) for updates.



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