



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF ALTRAD RMD KWIKFORM:



A TRIBUTE TO OUR LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES – MIKE HATHAWAY

Altrad RMD Kwikform is proud to be celebrating its 90th anniversary this year - a milestone that offers a moment to reflect on the people who have driven the company's growth and evolution over the past nine decades.

Behind every successful project, every innovative solution, and every satisfied customer stands a dedicated team whose talent, passion, and hard work have shaped Altrad RMD Kwikform into the company it is today.

Mike Hathaway, Global Quality Technician, is RMD Kwikform's longest serving employee with 60 years under his belt. Mike shares his favourite moments from his time at the company, highlighting innovations throughout the years and what it was like to come straight from school into the construction industry.

Mike's journey

"I was 16 and fresh out of school when I had my first interview with RMD, and the opportunity came through the Birmingham Youth Employment Office. I was young, a bit shy and had no idea that this first job as a Trainee Draughtsman would turn into a lifelong career.

"Back then, everything was done by hand at a drawing board, meaning no computers and no emails. If you needed to send a drawing, it went in the post, and you had to watch the clock to catch that afternoon collection. Things took time and patience was part of the job.

"But the world changed, and so did the way we worked, I still remember making the move from hand drawings to AutoCAD 2D. It was a huge shift, but I loved it as it opened up so many possibilities, bringing versatility and efficiency to the company. Entering the adult business world of the construction industry made a big impression on me and I never stopped learning."

Moments to remember

"Over the years, I've had the privilege of working on some incredible projects like the A1/M1 road improvements in Yorkshire, the Channel Tunnel Rail Link in Kent, the A45 near the NEC and Birmingham Airport, each one was a new challenge and a new experience.

"It hasn't just been about work though, I've always enjoyed the social

side of life at RMDK, the Christmas parties, the laughs in the office and the friendships I've made along the way. I think this place has always been more than just a job."

The evolution of the business

"When I started, we were working with just a few core products, which included the likes of Steel Panel Formwork, Floor Centres and Props, acting as temporary support for floor and roof slabs, and then the RMD 500 Girders and Trishore Units for bridge deck support. That was it really.

"Now we have such a wide range of products. We've got Superslim Soldiers, Megashor, aluminium beams, ground shoring, access and working platforms, the list goes on. I think what's great about RMDK is that it has truly become this one stop shop for our customers.

"With this expansion came better systems, quicker turnaround and global reach. One of my responsibilities in Global Quality Assurance has been reviewing material test certificates and test reports from manufacturers. It's a crucial part of making sure the materials meet our strict standards, and I've always taken pride in getting that right."

Why long service?

"I think it really comes down to the people and the place, the company has always employed good people who care about going above and beyond. They've genuinely felt like a second family to me over the years, and I can say that I've made some lifelong friends here, people you can always rely on.

"There's always been the chance to move up if you're willing, and they have always provided great training on the products. For a young and shy lad (like I was back then) it's been a good environment to grow, not just in the job itself, but also as an individual.

"Sixty odd years...it's been a good journey, and seeing the company reach 90 years just makes you feel like you've been part of something worthwhile, and I believe that I have."