SETTING THE STANDARD FOR WATER JETTING

Supporting our members' success









Image: RGL Services

CHAMPIONING OUR INDUSTRY AND OUR MEMBERS



Welcome to the Water Jetting Association. We are the trade body that represents organisations involved in all aspects of water jetting, at all operational pressures.

We promote water jetting as a vital and sustainable industrial process. We champion the highest technical and safety standards through our code of practice.

Our accredited water jetting training is used in all sectors across the UK and internationally. And we work to give our members a voice and important business advantages across our industry.

If your organisation is involved in water jetting, as a service provider or a customer, we want you to be involved in the WJA.

Lee O'Callaghan | WJA Chairman



















CONTENTS

Our aims and how we achieve them 4
- Our purpose
- Our members
- Our governance

Why join the WJA 5
- Membership benefits
- Member categories
- How to join the WJA

Water jetting explained 6
- Water jetting safety
- Water jetting uses
- Water jetting pressures

WJA Code of Practice 7
- The code's purpose
- How it is developed
- How it is used

Training – Overview 8
- WJA courses and modules
- Training quality promise
- WJA training – 5 advantages

Training - Water Jetting Programme 9
- Class and practical training
- Training process
- Competence qualification

Training – Stand-Alone Courses 10
- New courses available
- Training quality standards
- Training advantages

WJA – Our development 11
- Pioneers of safety
- Standards and training
- International recognition

How we support our members 12
- Expert technical advice
- Expert business advice
- Member promotion

WJA TRADE SHOW 2027
Join us at the water jetting event of the year!

WJA Trade Show / WJA Awards 13
- Showcasing our industry
- Commercial opportunities
- Promoting innovation

What our members say 14
- About the WJA
- About water jetting
- Join the WJA

Who we are

The WJA has been representing water jetting contractors and other industry stakeholders across our industry since 1980.

We are the leading body dedicated to operational and safety excellence in water jetting.

We bring together all companies, agencies and organisations involved in water jetting to guide our industry's development and promote our members interests.

- Giving safety standards global recognition
- Dedicated support for industry contractors
- Technical advisory and legislative advocacy
- Promoting water jetting innovation
- Working with public bodies to improve safety
- Support business opportunities for members

Our members

- Water jetting contractors
- Equipment manufacturers
- Equipment suppliers
- Equipment hirers
- Training providers
- Water jetting users



WJA Governance

Our robust governance procedures ensure the WJA is run with transparent integrity and professionalism, through system of accountable leadership.

Articles of Association

Our purposes and aims are presented in the WJA articles of association and bylaws: a constitutional framework that governs our clear operating principles.

WJA Board

The WJA is led by the WJA Board, made up of 10 members drawn from member organisations, elected at the WJA's annual general meeting, plus the WJA director and technical manager.

Professional Charter

All members sign their acceptance for, and are bound by, the WJA professional charter. In this way, they know they are expected to adhere to the highest standards of integrity.

Meet the WJA Board

Go to the website:

www.waterjetting.org.uk/meet-the-board

Why join the WJA

Reputation and credibility

Reputational gain
Share the trust and integrity of the recognised leader of the UK's water jetting industry

WJA app
Instant access to information, including our codes of practice, through the WJA App

Marketing advantage
Only WJA members have the right to display the WJA logo to market their services

Support and expertise

Technical and medical support
Free access to the WJA Code of Practice, expert support from our WJA technical manager and advice on medical and health issues

Audited member scheme
Becoming a WJA Audited Member proves you set standards that impress customers

Croner access
Online and telephone advice on HR issues, health and safety, and business regulations

Growth and promotion

Service promotion
Promotion of your services through the online WJA member directory and news pages

WJA training
Develop your teams' skills and capabilities through our accredited training programme

Media collaboration
Opportunities to work with the WJA on articles and case studies in business media

Development and influence

Representation
Have your business interests and views represented by your industry's professional body

WJA trade show
Showcase your services at the WJA Trade Show – the UK's only water jetting event

Carbon off-set scheme
Free participation in the WJA's carbon off-set and wildlife development scheme



Enjoy a closer look at water jetting technology at WJA Trade Show 2027 - See page 13

How to join the WJA

Joining the WJA is made simpler by completing our digital application forms.

Three types of membership:

WJA Audited Member
A higher annual fee to cover the cost of an onsite audit, giving you the opportunity to promote your proven high standards.

WJA Member
One flat rate annual fee, payable straight away or in stages

Blue Chip Member
Membership that is free-of-charge for water jetting services users

Start your application process today

Go to the member section on our website:
www.waterjetting.org.uk/membership/become-a-member

What is water jetting?

Water jetting is an industrial process that uses water delivered under pressure to clean, defoul, and prepare surfaces or change the shape of structures.

Surfaces preparation uses high pressure water jets to selectively remove material, creating specific textured surfaces needed to apply new materials or coatings.

Water jetting is also used to cut materials and, through hydrodemolition, to selectively remove concrete, grout or asphalt while retaining undamaged steel reinforcement.

Advances in water jetting equipment are expanding the range of applications. These include automated systems, which improve safety by moving operatives away from the point of jetting.

However, significant hazards remain and must continue to be properly managed.

Water jetting – key uses

- Surface cleaning
- Surface preparation
- Structure defouling (including ships, bridges and docks)
- Concrete cutting and demolition
- Metals cutting
- Drain and sewer unblocking and cleaning
- Tank cleaning
- Industrial tube cleaning

Water jetting – vital across many industries



Drainage and water utilities



Construction and structure maintenance



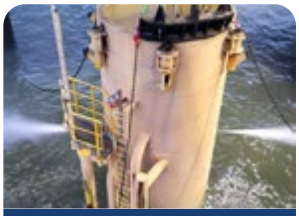
Oil and gas



Petrochemicals



Cleaning



Marine maintenance

Water jetting – key benefits

- Reduced vibration injury risk
- No dust pollution
- Reduced chemical use
- Reduced risk of structural damage
- Precision solution
- Deliverable in confined or remote space

Water jetting pressure classifications

Classification	Water pressure	Water jetting applications
Low pressure	7 to 120 bar 100 to 1,740 psi	Household pressure washers these pressures can break the skin
Medium pressure	120 to 345 bar 1,740 to 5,000 psi	Pressure washing and drain cleaning
High pressure	345 to 1,700 bar 5,000 to 24,650 psi	Most water jetting applications
Ultra-high pressure	1,700 to 3,000 bar 24,650 to 43,000 psi and above	All water jetting applications



Clear advice to combat risk of water jetting injury

Water jetting at all pressures carries a unique risk: fluid injection injuries, where a water jet punctures the skin, causing potentially severe internal injury made worse by infection.

This led the WJA to commission ground-breaking research, by a team of UK emergency medicine physicians, published in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery.

As a result, the research team also devised the **WJA Water Jetting Injury Treatment Algorithm**. It details best practice actions at each step of a medical response to a water jetting injury from first aid to ongoing hospital care and rehabilitation.

The algorithm is referenced in the WJA Code of Practice, underpins our training, including our new First Aid for Water Jetting course and is made available on the WJA website.

View the WJA Water Jetting Injury Treatment Algorithm

WJA Code of Practice

One standard for the water jetting industry



The WJA Code of Practice is recognised for providing the most detailed and advanced water jetting standards in the world.

Developed with industry experts and aligned with guidance from the Health and Safety Executive, the UK's health and safety regulatory body, it is a trusted benchmark for safe and effective water jetting operations.

Promoting safe practice

The WJA code gives contractors a practical, easy-to-use resource for safe and effective water jetting practices.

Supporting due diligence

It gives contractors assurance that their operations a re aligned with regulatory controls.

Meeting customer expectations

It helps our members demonstrate compliance with the most rigorous site safety standards.

Shaping water jetting training

It underpins our City & Guilds-accredited water jetting training programme.

Continuously evolving – always relevant

The first WJA code of practice, introduced in 1982, evolved through continuous development into the Blue, Red and Purple Codes.

The new WJA Code of Practice, introduced in 2026, brings these three codes together in one, integrated and fully-updated document.

Having one code of practice will ensure our standards remain relevant, practical and easier to apply as water jetting rapidly evolves.

How to unlock the code

The WJA Code of Practice is made available free-of-charge to all WJA members and all successful WJA training candidates via the WJA app.

It can also be bought in hard copy or digital form (via the WJA app) from the WJA online shop.



What the code covers

- Risk Assessment
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Organisation and Duties
- Prohibited Areas
- Frost Precautions
- Waste Management
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
- Water Jetting Units
- Hose Assemblies
- Accessories
- Equipment Maintenance
- Abrasive Jet Cutting Systems
- Ultra High-Pressure Jetting
- Hot Wash Systems
- Hire Companies
- Introduction to Water Jetting Training
- Injuries and Ill Health

Find out more about the WJA Code of Practice

Go to:
www.waterjetting.org.uk/code-of-practice

Training for safety

Training for success

We are the largest provider of water jetting training in the UK. Our courses are also used to set standards internationally, notably in the oil, gas and petrochemicals industries.

We also provide a growing range of stand-alone courses designed to assist water jetting contractors in delivering an expanded service portfolio.

City & Guilds ACCREDITED

WJA courses are accredited by City & Guilds, are directly informed by the WJA Code of Practice, and are delivered by WJA-registered training providers and WJA-approved instructors.

One WJA training programme

Three proven elements

Water Jetting Training and Assessments

City & Guilds ACCREDITED

- Safety Awareness

Practical Modules

- Surface Preparation
- Tube and Pipe
- Drain and Sewer
- Drain, Sewer and Gun
- Drain, Sewer and Robotics*
- Hydrodemolition

Stand-alone Courses

City & Guilds ACCREDITED

Water jetting

- Pressure Washing
- Graffiti Removal
- First Aid for Water Jetting

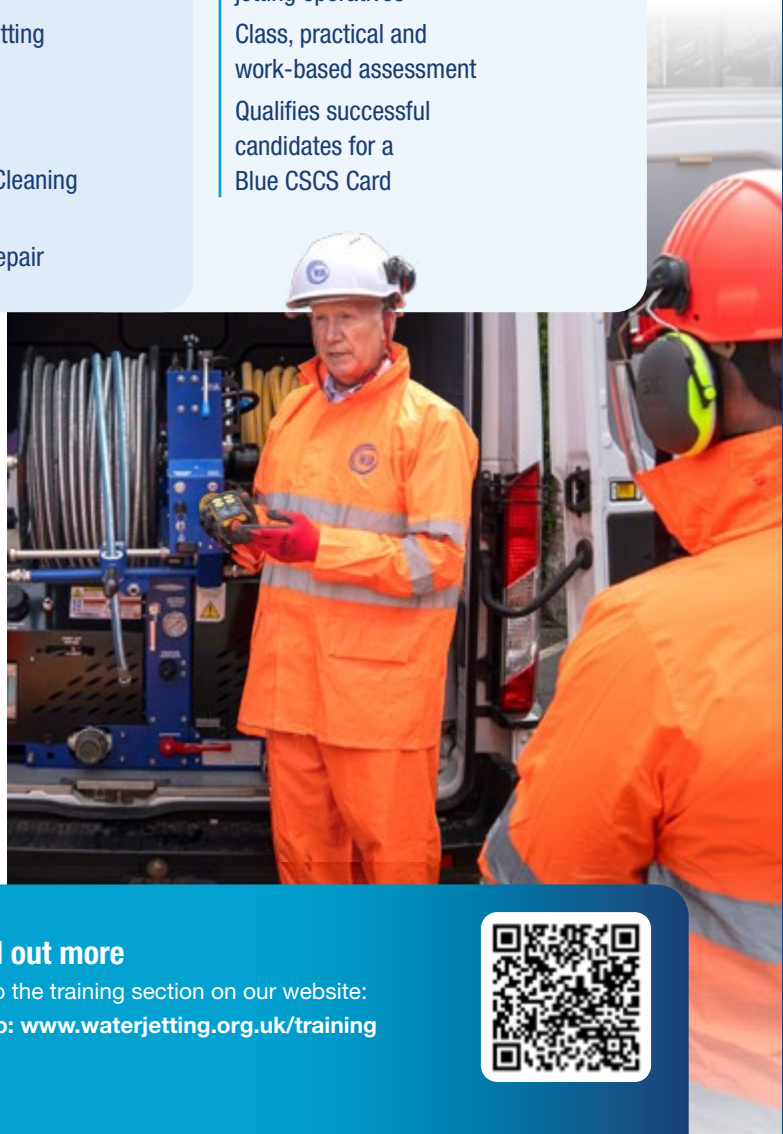
Other disciplines

- Drainage CCTV
- Electro-Mechanical Cleaning
- Gutter Cleaning
- Remote Structural Repair

Vocational Qualification

ABBE Quality Accredited

- The UK's first competency qualification for water jetting operatives
- Class, practical and work-based assessment
- Qualifies successful candidates for a Blue CSCS Card



Why choose WJA training

5 important advantages

Working safely – WJA water jetting training is a proven approach to minimising operational risk

Commercial opportunity – Procurement professionals in key industries specify our training

Building competence – Our course lay firm foundations for competence, resilience and sustainability

Trusted to delivery – Structured training reassures customers of safety and quality standards

Creating success – WJA training is designed to support development of high-performance teams

*In final stages of development

Find out more

Go to the training section on our website:

Go to: www.waterjetting.org.uk/training

WJA water jetting courses

How they work

WJA water jetting training certification is a two-stage process that give candidates the knowledge and practical skills that underpin safe water jetting operations.

Course length	1 day
Delivery	Class-based and practical
Assessment	Multiple-choice digital questionnaire (pass mark 80%) and practical test
Course renewed	Every 3 years

1. Company creates a new water jetting operative post
2. Operative attends the WJA Safety Awareness course, and passes the course examination
3. Operative attends at least one WJA Practical Module and passes the class examination and practical assessment
4. Operative receives a digital certificate and a digital operational jetting card
5. Operative passes the Safety Awareness Refresher course, which includes an assessment of the practical element of the highest ranking Practical Module on their card
6. WJA water jetting card is approved for 3 more years

3+ Years

ABBE Quality Accredited

Next stage competency qualification

Level 2 Water Jetting Technician Certificate

City & Guilds ACCREDITED

Safety Awareness (SA)

Class-based

Practical modules

HIGHER – PRACTICAL MODULE RANKING – LOWER



Drain and Sewer (DS)
Up to 350 bar (5,000 psi)



Drain, Sewer and Gun (DSG)
Up to 350 bar (5,000 psi)



Surface Preparation (SP)
Above 275 bar (4,000 psi)



Tube and Pipe Cleaning(TP)
Above 275 bar (4,000 psi)



Hydrodemolition (HD)
Above 690 bar (10,000 psi)

WJA stand-alone courses

Expanding skills – expanding services



Course length	1 day
Delivery	Class-based and practical
Assessment	Multiple-choice digital questionnaire (pass mark 80%) and practical assessment
Course renewed	Every 3 years

City & Guilds ACCREDITED

Pressure Washing (PW)
Pressure / Flow: Up To 275 bar (4,000 psi) / 22 LPM

Graffiti removal (GR)
Best practice in the use of water jetting equipment to remove graffiti

Gutter cleaning (GC)
Using long pole wet/dry vacuumation equipment

Remote Structural Repair (RSR)
Safe application of cured in place pipe (CIPP) point lining

Electro-mechanical cleaning (EM)
Using electro-mechanical equipment to clean pipes

Drain CCTV (CCTV)
Safe and productive use of CCTV survey equipment and systems

First aid for Water Jetting (FA)
Emergency first aid at work training for water jetting teams

For course outlines
Go to our training page and click on the stand-alone course boxes
www.waterjetting.org.uk/training

4 steps to quality WJA training

1 Latest assessment methods:
We use the CLiKAPAD digital response system to examine candidates. Blocks of multiple-choice questions are set throughout each course, making the process rigorous and more enjoyable.

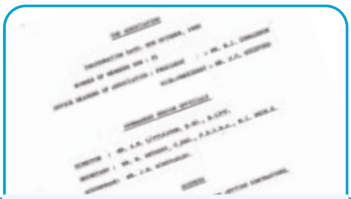
2 Bespoke candidate feedback:
We give employers a digital assessment of every candidate sent on each course, to support tailoring of ongoing skills development.

3 WJA app:
Successful candidates are given free access to the WJA Code of Practice via the WJA app, which also displays their operational jetting card, plus other useful information.

4 Instant training status checks:
Operatives, service users and employers can confirm WJA courses are up to date using our secure verification portal, via the WJA app.

Our history and development

Pioneering safe and productive water jetting



1980

The Association of High Pressure Water Jetting Contractors is inaugurated.

1981

- **The first water jetting training courses are delivered**.
- A preliminary short code of practice for high pressure water jetting is published.





Last version of the Blue Code

1993

The updated code of practice gets a blue cover, so is known as the **Blue Code for high pressure and ultra-high pressure water jetting**



2009

David Kennedy becomes director of the WJA, a post he holds until his death, after a short illness, on 1st October 2022.





Last version of the Red Code

2008

The first code of practice for water jetting in drains and sewers is published. In 2013 it gets a red cover, so becomes the Red Code.



1997

At their AGM, members agree to a new name **the Water Jetting Association.**



2019

- Ground breaking medical research, commissioned by the WJA, leads to the creation of the
- **WJA Water Jetting Injury Treatment Algorithm.**

2023

- **Leanne Smith is appointed Director of the WJA.**
- Gordon Taylor, pictured right, becomes the WJA's first Technical Manager
- Non-UK training providers and instructors can apply to deliver WJA training courses for the first time.

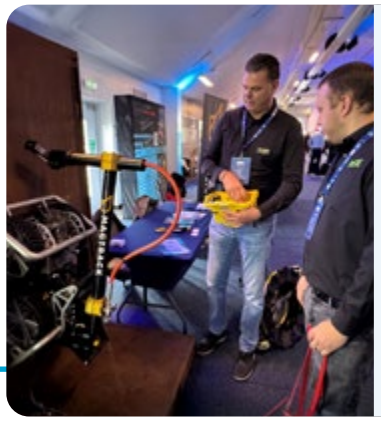






2026

- New stand-alone courses, including **Drain CCTV**, support members who want to expand their services.
- The association's three codes of practice are replaced by one, easier-to-use **WJA Code of Practice**.
- The membership structure is streamlined to make it simpler to join the WJA.
- The first **WJA Awards** are held to celebrate member achievements and showcase water jetting.



2024

- The WJA app is launched as part of a drive to digitise member services.
- The WJA launches the Purple Code – a code of practice for pressure washing.
- The WJA joins a carbon offset and rewilding programme to plant a tree each year for each of its members.
- The first WJA trade show takes place at StoneX Stadium, London.

Find out more about our development

Go to the about us section on our website:
www.waterjetting.org.uk/about-us/history

How we supporting our members' success

Create connections

Attend our free member meet-ups across the UK. These are relaxed social events, where our members can put faces to names, share experiences and forge fruitful business connections while enjoying an evening out.

Build your team

Looking to recruit? Members can post job adverts on the WJA website, which is visited by thousands of people a month interested in water jetting.

Get expert advice

- WJA technical manager Gordon Taylor is on hand to share his water jetting expertise. Members receive regular technical and safety briefings.
- Members also have free access to valuable online resources, including a library of toolbox talks and templates for operational documents.
- Enjoy free access to Croner, providing HR and employment law advice, commercial legal support, plus health and safety and tax advice. Plus specialist Croner services at preferential rates

Promote your services

- Only WJA members can use our logo and name to market their businesses. Your business will be added to our easy-to-search online members directory.
- You can prepare a Member Spotlight article for our web news pages, showcase your technical achievements in online WJA case studies, and partner with us in specialist trade press and business articles.

Save money

Our members' discount scheme offers a range of reduced-price services from trusted service providers. They include 10% off specialist water jetting insurance, a saving likely to more than cover the cost of WJA membership alone.

Develop team skills

Our accredited water jetting training programme provides member teams with vital skills to deliver services safely and productively. We now also have a range of additional courses designed to help our members expand and deepen the services they deliver.

Do business

Only WJA members can sell used equipment through our website, reaching an audience that is most likely to want to buy it.

Gain industry recognition

The WJA works with service specifiers and industry bodies to gain recognition for the skills of our members and win more business opportunities. An example is work we are doing to create clearer and faster pathways to obtaining Blue CSCS cards.

Support the planet

Join the WJA and you will be growing environmental diversity and promoting your company's sustainability, through our support, on behalf of members, in a carbon-offset tree planting and rewilding programme at multiple sites across the UK.



Not a WJA member? Apply to join today

Go to our membership page:

www.waterjetting.org.uk/membership/become-a-member

Introducing the water jetting event of the year!

WJA Trade Show 2027 is the only exhibition dedicated to all aspects of the water jetting industry in the UK – and so presents a unique commercial opportunity for WJA members and other businesses.

We're proud to bring the world of water jetting to one place – creating a fantastic event for meeting new customers and suppliers and see what's new in water jetting across all techniques and industrial sectors.

Why you should be an exhibitor

- Showcase your business to a water jetting audience
- Meet and promote your services to new customers
- Outdoor exhibition areas to showcase larger equipment

Why you should attend

- Entry is free with free parking
- See the latest water jetting equipment and services across all sectors – a great aid to investment decisions
- Unrivalled access to water jetting expertise and innovations

Visitor Verdict

We're just entering the drainage market, so we've come to buy a few things. There's everything from a nozzle to a hydrodemolition machine. So you can speak to people, and you're constantly learning.

George Stevens
Director, Roundhouse UK



Exhibitor Verdict

It's a really good show, and the clientele who are here are very important people in the industry who have come to see the latest innovations, and this is a great place to see them.

Tom Birkett
Sales Executive, AQ-Rent



We're off!

The date: **Friday 25th June 2027**

The location: **Newbury Racecourse, Berkshire**



Book a stand or get your free visitor tickets

Go to the WJA Trade Show 2027 website:
www.wjatradeshow.org.uk

WJA Awards 2026 – celebrating success

In September 2026, the WJA hosted its first national water jetting awards evening after its annual general meeting.

The association sees the WJA Awards, which featured 10 award categories, as an important way to recognise member achievements and promote innovation and excellence in the water jetting industry.



I've no doubt the WJA Awards will become a highlight of our industry's calendar

WJA Chairman Lee O'Callaghan



It was a wonderful surprise. To be recognised by my peers, by people I respect, is very special.

Jeff Haigh
Outstanding Achievement Award



I was shocked to win. Water jetting is very rewarding. I'm learning so much. This job is giving me a start in life.

Jack Kinghorn
Operative of the Year Award



I had a three day trial and fell in love with drainage. I felt like a winner then, now I have a WJA Award as well!

Alfie Jones
Young Person of the Year Award

View all WJA Awards 2026 winners and find out more

What our members say

Promoting safety and standards



The WJA plays a vital role in promoting safety, professionalism and best practice across the industry. Joining the association enables us to contribute to that mission while working alongside like-minded businesses that are committed to raising standards.

Danny Watson | Commercial Director
Core Cut Ltd **Contractor**

Meeting new customers – sharing knowledge



The Networking with WJA other members is where we've probably seen the biggest value from being part of the WJA. It may lead to commercial opportunities. But the bigger benefit for us is understanding the industry better.

Thomas Baxter | Managing Director
Rausch UK **Equipment supplier**

Helping us make better decisions



The Networking with WJA other members is where we've probably seen the biggest value from being part of the WJA. It may lead to commercial opportunities. But the bigger benefit for us is understanding the industry better.

Lennon Compton | Director
Tanker Rent UK **Hire specialist**

WJA is a commercial imperative



We joined because a lot of our clients have WJA membership in their specifications, so it's a commercial imperative. We also want to contribute to the future of our industry, and the WJA is playing a pivotal role in setting its direction and development.

Gavin Thomas | Director
Aquaforce Concrete Services **Contractor**

WJA membership – our advantages



We expect to benefit from industry knowledge, networking opportunities, best practice guidance and the chance to support ongoing improvements in standards and safety.

Maher Aldik | Operations Manager
Nasser Abd Mohammed Co. B.S.C© (NAMCO) **Contractor**

Improving understanding of customers



The WJA represents everything that is positive about the industry. Ultimately, our role is to understand the drainage, water jetting, sewage and wastewater industry inside and out, and being part of the WJA helps us do exactly that.

Oliver Newport | Development Executive
Howden **Insurance Service supplier**

Building stronger relationships



Being a WJA member is an opportunity to collaborate with industry peers and contribute to the continued development of standards and best practice. We're also looking forward to building stronger relationships throughout the water jetting community.

Mark Rapson | UK Sales Manager
Bucher Municipal **Equipment supplier**

Being part of a positive community



We believe good industries are built on shared standards. The WJA has done a huge amount to promote safe working practices and give its industry a collective voice. We wanted to be part of that community rather than watch from the outside.

Suzanne Saynor | Head of Business Development and Marketing
Total Specialist Maintenance **Contractor**

Best years are ahead



I'm pleased with the way the organisation has developed in the last couple of years. The new WJA board is helping focus on issues that matter most. The WJA Trade Show is a massive win. I'm glad to see where the WJA's going. Its best years are ahead.

Steve Tooey | General Manager
Mourik UK **Contractor**

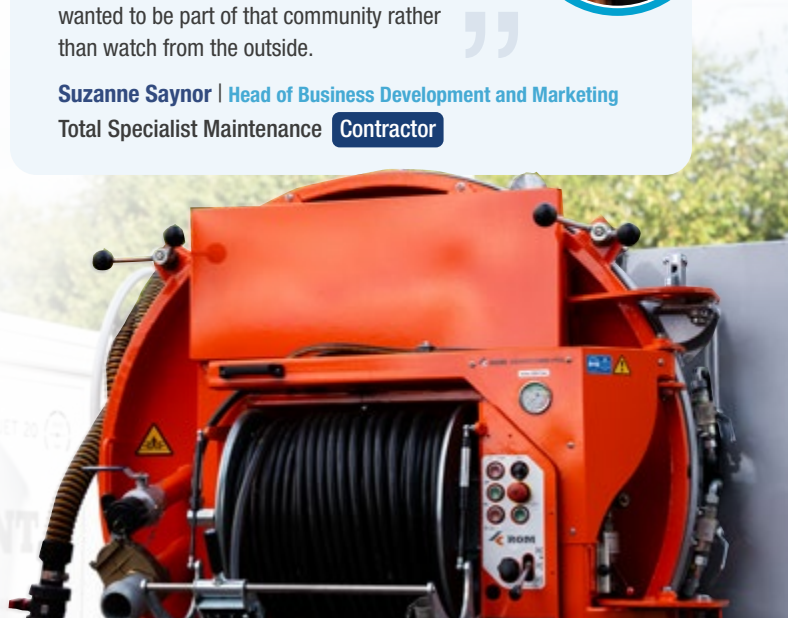


Image: Mourik UK

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE SUCCESS OF OUR INDUSTRY



The WJA is run by run by members, for members - and for the greater good of the water jetting industry.

There are many ways to contribute, from simply giving feedback and sharing ideas to being more closely involved in decision-making.

So, if you're thinking of joining, we'd be pleased to receive your application. We'd also love to welcome you to WJA Trade Show 2027 at Newbury Racecourse on 25th June 2027, as an exhibitor or a visitor.

Let's shape the future of water jetting together.

Leanne Smith | WJA Director

Talk to us

The Water Jetting Association welcomes enquiries from organisations and people who deliver, use, or benefit from water jetting services

Join the WJA

Find out about WJA training



Work with us to promote standards and safety

+44 20 8320 1090
info@waterjetting.org.uk
www.waterjetting.org.uk

Water Jetting Association

The Engine House, Veridion Way,
Erith, Kent, DA18 4AL. United Kingdom

WJA pros v7 (NOV 2026)