

TANFIELD GROUP and UPRIGHT INTERNATIONAL

PRESS RELEASE

LEADING UK product engineering company The Tanfield Group Plc today announced its agreement to purchase the powered access division of UpRight International.

The Tanfield Group, which owns access platform manufacturer Aerial Access, has executed a binding agreement with UpRight International. The purchase agreement, for an undisclosed sum, is subject to a 30-day statutory consultation with UpRight employees, and consequently the transaction will complete in 30 days time.

Darren Kell, business development director for The Tanfield Group, said: “The purchase of the powered access arm of UpRight will make us a truly global player in the industry. UpRight has a comprehensive range of quality products, distributed globally through a professional dealer network.”

UpRight has a factory based in Dublin, Ireland. Tanfield will assume the rights to manufacture all UpRight’s scissor lifts and booms. Upright International will retain production and distribution of its UpRight Aluminium Tower Systems (ATS) brand.

Darren Kell said “Tanfield’s existing Aerial Access range of trailer and truck mounts will be a great fit with UpRight’s product portfolio of scissor lifts and self propelled booms. This means we can now offer clients a total powered access solution. From a production perspective, there are also obvious economies of scale and cost savings in terms of production synergies, shared components and having one design and management team.”

Noel Corcoran, Managing Director of Upright, said: “The separation of the two entities in this way will allow each party to specialise in one arena. In both cases, this will significantly increase the level of investment and support available for each product range and brand.”

Tanfield will act as Upright International’s distributor for its ATS range of products in the USA and Japan markets through the acquisition of the existing distribution companies in those markets.

“We have a shared destiny, in that many of our UpRight powered access customers are UpRight ATS customers,” said Mr Kell. “We see this as the foundation for what we are confident will be a long and fruitful partnership.”

Darren Kell – Tanfield

Noel Corcoran – Upright

26th April 2006