

Fred Champion Groundworks expands its fleet of CASE excavators

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To meet the demands of its growing order book, Liskeard-based Fred Champion Groundworks has expanded its CASE Construction Equipment fleet of machines with sixteen, Tier 4 Final, crawler excavators.

Fred Champion is one of the largest groundworks contractors in the region, working on a variety of projects, including roads and sewer infrastructure, student accommodation, hospitals, major housing developments and commercial industrial buildings.

The machines were supplied by CASE dealer M&M plant who are based in Launceston, and include fifteen CX75 C Series excavators, plus the latest CX350 D Series excavator, which have been pre-installed with the Prolec weigh-loading system.

CASE machines are a popular choice with Fred Champion, the company has been running them for 15 years and comprises wheeled and tracked excavators, including five CX130Cs; ten CX210Cs; three CX130Bs; a CX18B; a CX50B; and CX210B, plus an 821E wheeled loader.

The company took delivery of its first CX75C SR crawler excavator in June 2015 at The Royal Cornwall Show. It then purchased a further 14 to replace and update its fleet.

The versatile CX75C SR has an operating weight of 8000kg and is fitted with a Tier 4 Final/Stage IV engine, with emissions standards met through the use of Cooled Exhaust Gas Recirculation (CEGR), combined with a Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) system. There is also no requirement for these machines to have a Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF), which means there is no need for active filter regeneration that consumes fuel, and no need to replace the costly DPF.

CASE's latest 35 tonne, CX350 D Series was chosen to update the company's larger part of the fleet after seeing the machine debut at Intermat. It was bought specifically to work on the Sherford project - the construction of a new town on the outskirts of Plympton, Devon to include 5,500 houses along with schools, shops and open park lands and is the biggest in the company's history.

One of four in the 25 to 40 tonne, the CX370 D is supplied with its Intelligent Hydraulic System and also includes a new electronically controlled hydraulic pump, a larger control valve and new solenoid valves to help boost breakout force, increase lifting strength and improve responsiveness, which enables the machine to work faster throughout the work cycle. The new and improved cab also meets ROPS and FOPS Level II safety standards, providing maximum protection to the operator.

Fred Champion, managing director of Fred Champion Groundworks, said: "The overall performance of all the machines is very good, and the CX350 D has exceeded our expectations. The fuel economy is up to 80-100 litres better on fuel per week and from an operator's point of view the machine grades very smoothly and is faster on the tracks than the previous model. The extra space in the cab is also a real benefit."

CASE has also just announced they are expanding the D series range with a further five new models – the CX130D, CX160D and CX180D in the medium range and the CX490D and CX500D heavy models, which will be launched at Bauma. Like the previously launched models, the new additions stand out for their productivity, fast cycles, and efficiency. They all feature Tier 4 Final (Stage IV) maintenance-free technology with no DPF that results in low running costs and the big performance comes with superior comfort and safety.

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