



Company Profile



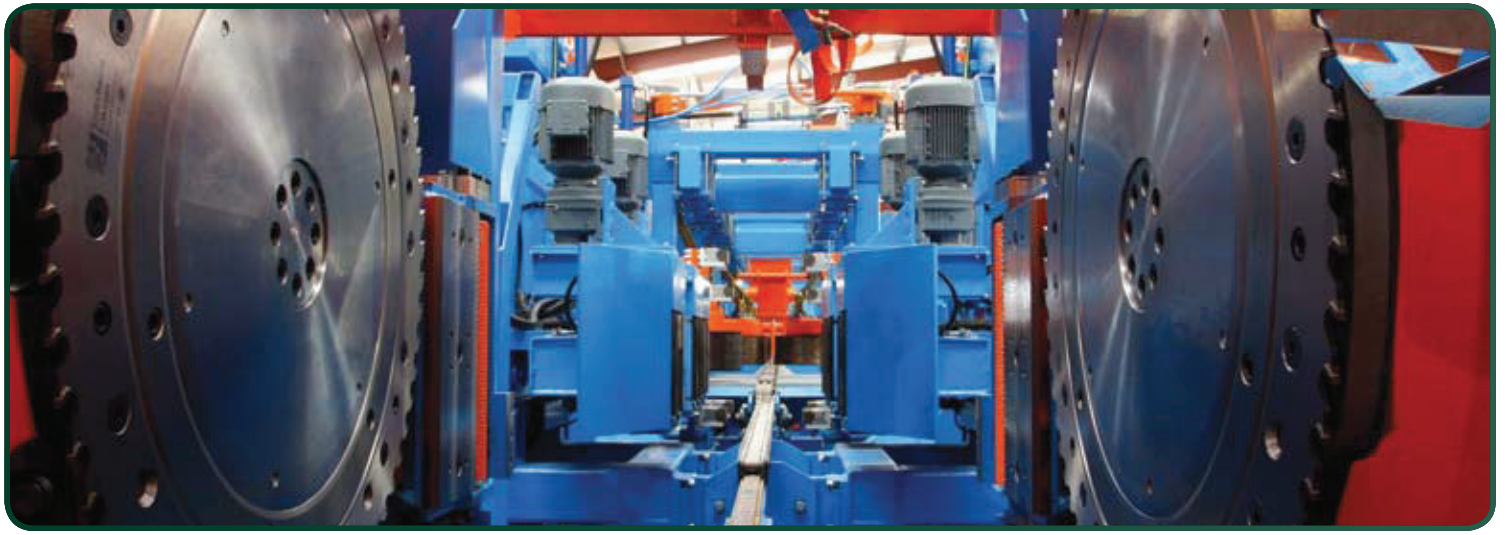
James Jones & Sons. A distinguished history...

The James Jones story is a long and distinguished one. Stretching back to the middle of the nineteenth century, when Mr James Jones started trading in timber and allied products, it includes fascinating facts, larger than life characters and bygone eras.

One of Britain's oldest, surviving & prospering businesses, James Jones has a rich and varied heritage: the sawmills were originally driven by heavy horses and steam traction engines, we manufactured the oak keel for Captain Scott's legendary Antarctic exploration vessel, Discovery and were instrumental in cleaning up windblown timbers following the great gale of 1953.

Since being incorporated in 1905, the company has grown both organically and through acquisition, so that the wider Group now includes the following wholly owned subsidiaries and joint ventures: Unit Pallets Ltd, Stella-Jones Inc, United Box and Timber Systems Division. A sustained investment programme in upgrading and improving its facilities, meanwhile, has kept James Jones & Sons at the forefront of its core timber industry.

- 1838** The first Tom Jones begins selling timber in Camelon, near Larbert
- 1840s** Scottish railway boom – a major source of income for timber firms
- 1872** Tom Bruce Jones born – later awarded an OBE for services to industry
- 1874** Tom Jones' timber yard moves to larger site close to Larbert station
- 1900s** The company supplies the oak keel for Captain Scott's legendary Antarctic exploration vessel Discovery
- 1905** James Jones & Sons becomes a limited company
- 1910** James Jones begins creosoting railway sleepers, telegraph and transmission poles – the first value adding process
- 1914** Operating at least 11 mills and employing c 400 men, James Jones is the leading British timber merchant in the country
- 1919** Forestry Act creates the Forestry Commission
- 1921** Company displays a house built entirely from timber at Glasgow's Ideal Homes Exhibition. The house could be erected in just 11 days
- 1930s** Tractors begin to replace traditional 'horse power' in timber harvesting operations
- 1948** James Jones & Sons' turnover breaks through the £ million barrier
- 1950** Celebrating their Chairman's 50th anniversary with the firm, 2,000 people from James Jones & Sons sail down the Clyde
- 1950s** The company opens its Kirriemuir sawmill. Woodcutters start to adopt chain saws and the advent of forklift trucks
- 1953** The great windblow brings down millions of trees all over north-eastern Scotland



James Jones & Sons. An exciting future...

Celebrating over 100 years in business, James Jones & Sons is Scotland's largest independent sawmiller and one of the leading suppliers of British timber in the UK, with a broad client portfolio encompassing a wide range of industry sectors.

Strategically located throughout Scotland, our sawmills boast capacities ranging from 12,000m³ to 140,000m³ and feature state-of-the-art Scandinavian sawing systems, 3D laser technology and X-ray strength grading – a far cry from the four-man sawing teams of yesteryear. Together, they cater for every size and shape of timber requirement.

Through five generations of the same family ownership, our mission has remained the same: to set and maintain the highest standards of quality and service. The methods used may have changed but this commitment remains at the core of our business.

- 1954** James Jones' new head offices are completed in Larbert. This building remains the company's head office
- 1955** The company still operates over 30 sawmills and employs nearly 1,200 men
- 1979** Tom A Bruce-Jones, son of the Chairman, appointed as Joint Managing Director
- 1984** Dumfries sawmill opens – the company's first high-volume sawmill dedicated to the production of strength graded construction timber
- 1989** The company acquires Kinnoir and Mosstodloch sawmills
- 1990s** James Jones becomes the first company to appoint full-time health & safety and environmental managers
- 1991** A new replacement sawmill is commissioned at Aboyne
- 1996** Tom Bruce-Jones becomes the first member of the UK timber processing industry to be appointed as a Forestry Commissioner
- 1997** The company achieves record sales of more than £44 million
- 1999** Acquisition of Unit Pallets
- 1999** James Jones establishes Timber Systems Division and the first UK-based I-Joist manufacturing facility
- 2000** Lockerbie site acquired and Lockerbie 1 sawmill built
- 2006** Lockerbie 2 built and commissioned
- 2009** Lockerbie 3 completed, creating the Lockerbie 'super-site' – one of the largest, most advanced wood processing facilities in Europe