



Churchill China plc use Nu-Star Power Pushers in Stoke-on-Trent

Churchill China plc (one of the world's major manufacturers and distributors of high quality ceramic tableware) have recently taken delivery of two Nu-Star Hi-Torque Power Pusher® units at their Marlborough Pottery site in Stoke-on-Trent.

The Power Pusher is a pedestrian operated, battery powered tug unit designed to push, pull & manoeuvre rolling loads up to 40,000Kg in weight.

Measuring only 1.4m long and 670mm wide and weighing just 150Kg, the Power Pusher is both highly manoeuvrable and completely self-contained with no trailing wires or air lines. It not only improves shop-floor productivity, but also reduces the likelihood of back injuries associated with the manual pushing, pulling & manoeuvring of heavy rolling loads in the workplace.

In this particular application, the Power Pusher is fitted with a steering arm attachment enabling the operator to connect to the leading edge of the kiln cars and manoeuvre them in and out of the kilns and storage area.

Steve Smith (Waste & Energy Manager at Churchill China) explained; "The kiln cars used to be moved by hand, but their size and weight makes this an arduous task. In addition, we have to minimise vibrations so as to avoid any possible damage to the china as the cars are pulled out of the kilns. The Power Pushers take all the effort out of the job and have been configured with a smooth acceleration that stops any jerkiness from damaging the newly fired china."

Colin Bearsby (Nu-Star's Sales Director) commented "We are delighted to have helped Churchill China improve their operational efficiency and reduce the likelihood of push/pull injuries to their workforce."



Harry Hunt (Churchill China plc, Stoke-on-Trent) pushing a 2 tonne kiln car into the oven with one of the Nu-Star Power Pushers

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