

Chelworth, Malmesbury,
Wiltshire, SN16 9SG, England

T +44 (0) 1666 577 333

F +44 (0) 1666 577 339

E info@alvanblanch.co.uk

W www.alvanblanch.co.uk

Alvan Blanch Development Company Limited,
Registered in England No 507937
Vat No GB 137 422 481



PRESS RELEASE

Release: Immediate

NEW GRAIN DRIERS WILL CUT FUEL COSTS

New innovations designed to cut energy bills on continuous grain driers have been unveiled by Wiltshire-based manufacturer Alvan Blanch.

They incorporate the latest refinements to the well-known Alvan Blanch 'Double Flow' system and, says the company, will lead to significant reductions in fuel consumption, which accounts for the largest proportion of drying costs.

Total heat recovery from the cooling section of the drier has long been a feature of Alvan Blanch driers. But managing director Andrew Blanch says the technique has now been extended to recover even more heat - from the final drying section.

"We first introduced the concept in a large dockside plant we installed in Southampton last year and it worked so well we have promoted it on several new systems for the 2011 harvest, and are now ready to offer the option for all new driers for 2012" he said.

Insulation of the plenum walls is another new fuel-saving option that virtually eliminates radiated heat loss from the drier body, so ensuring almost all the energy used goes into the drying process.

Andrew Blanch said the option had already become almost an automatic choice for the company's many maize-drying clients in Central Europe.

"And by driving down production costs we have now been able to offer it as a viable option to UK farmers. We have fitted it on one large drier in Gloucestershire this year, to good effect," he said.

“Of course additional features mean additional cost, but by our calculations the pay-back time for these is no more than 1500 operating hours, which makes the systems highly advantageous on driers operating at commercial stores and on farms handling wet grain or running over an extended season.

Other Alvan Blanch fuel-saving innovations introduced this year include a system for ducting waste heat from a generator to the drier furnace – already in use on several UK farms.

Customers now also have the option of a hot water or steam heat exchanger operating with biomass-fired driers, to take advantage of the introduction of the Renewable Heat Incentive. These are also offered as a retrofit for existing driers. One drier in Scotland has been converted in this way with positive feedback received from this first harvest season and several other conversions are at an advanced stage of planning.

Alvan Blanch has been producing driers for 60 years and has been established market leader in this field for most of that period. Driers are exported worldwide for use on a wide range of diverse crops - from rapeseed in Canada to coffee in Ecuador, from cocoa in Nigeria to cottonseed in Greece, from maize in Saudi Arabia to wheat in Siberia, from rice in Japan to sunflower in Hungary.

Further information from: Chris Budd 01666 577333

Notes to editors:

Alvan Blanch, based in Chelworth, near Malmesbury, Wiltshire, sells a wide range of drying and processing machinery and systems worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £9 million.

Around 70 per cent of its output goes for export, with major markets in Canada, Eastern Europe, Russia, the Middle East, Africa and Southern Asia, and it has just secured a significant contract in China.

The company looks to reinvest 10 per cent of income into development each year – in 2010/2011 this amounted to more than £1 million.

Alvan Blanch won the Queen’s Award for International Trade in 2005 and has been a regular supplier over many years to various UN agencies including the World Food Programme.

Issued on behalf of Alvan Blanch by Imprint PR

Pic caption

Southampton Grain Terminal showing Two Alvan Blanch DF48000 Double Flow Grain Driers with cladding and waste heat recirculation

