

# Stocks Bros Ltd. Case Study

## Snapshot

Stocks Bros Ltd, known as Stocks Blocks, one of the UK's leading manufacturers of lightweight concrete and masonry blocks, required a solution to the problem of rapid wear and sidewall damage to the tyres of its forklift truck fleet. Stocks Blocks selected premium brand Continental ConRad HT radial tyres to solve the problem and deliver outstanding service life.



## About Stocks Blocks



Stocks Blocks is one of the UK's leading manufacturers of lightweight concrete and masonry blocks. Established over 75 years ago, the company has built an enviable reputation throughout the industry thanks to innovative product development and a commitment to quality. Stocks Blocks building blocks and architectural masonry have been selected by architects and contractors for developments in the retail, commercial, government, sports and leisure, as well as housing industries. Recent developments using Stocks Blocks products include Twickenham Rugby Stadium and The Royal Armouries, while the company is the leading block supplier to Morrisons supermarkets nationwide.

Operating out of two plants, with a head office in Garforth, Leeds, Stocks Blocks today is a multimillion pound business, employing over 100 people. The company's 14 Caterpillar forklift trucks are the workhorses of the business, loading and carrying building blocks in arduous operational conditions.

## Benefits for Stocks Bros

The HT Conrad radial tyre is part of the new radial tyre generation from Continental. Purpose designed for forklifts and Caterpillars on gruelling applications it delivers extra long life with maximum cost-effectiveness:

- Radial construction delivers cool running for longer life and faster running speeds
- Hardwearing tread compound ensures durability
- Superb resistance to tyre wear and puncture resistance for longer tyre life
- Sidewall reinforced with scuffing rib to prevent sidewall failure
- Longer life reduces replacement costs
- Improved reliability keeps downtime to a minimum for optimised operation and increased productivity.

**STOCKS  
BLOCKS**

**TYRES – ENGINEERED IN GERMANY**

**Continental**



## Business Issues

Stocks Blocks undertakes the repair and maintenance of its forklift fleet in house, with two technicians responsible for the fleet. A fully operational fleet is essential for maximum productivity and each truck is required to run at least 65 hours a week, so when Fleet Engineer, Alan Goodall, noticed a recurring problem of rapid wear and sidewall failure on the forklift fleet's tyres, he took action.



## The solution

After investigating the various tyres on the market, Alan opted for the premium brand Continental ConRad HT radial tyres. The tyre is purpose designed for arduous applications, with a sidewall reinforced with a scuffing rib to counter the long-term wear that was causing the previous tyres to fail.

"Continental is a premium brand tyre and in these tough operational conditions quality counts," commented Alan. "The tyres are extremely robust, hardwearing and are delivering excellent service life, which has more than repaid any additional cost at purchase in terms of improved productivity and mileage."



Following an initial trial, Stocks Blocks now fit ConRad HT 10.00-20 Half Track to ten of its 14 Caterpillar forklift trucks.

"We find that the 10.00-20 Half Tracks give a soft, comfortable ride with effective shock reduction that keeps the drivers happy," explained Alan.

The design and radial construction of the HT Conrad delivers longer life, while the half track asymmetric tread pattern designed for twin fitment slows down wear on large forklift trucks such as those in operation at Stocks Blocks. The hardwearing compound of the tyre, combined with reinforced sidewall, makes it the perfect partner for forklifts working in demanding conditions.



## About the ConRad HT

The new radial tyre generation from Continental for heavy duty applications delivers extra long life with maximum cost-effectiveness.

### Applications

- Forklift Trucks
- Side Loaders
- Platform & Lift Trucks
- Industrial Tractors
- Ro-Ro Trailers

For more information on Continental Fleet Tyre Audits, the Continental SC 15 or any other industrial tyre enquiry, contact the Industrial Hotline on 0845 6000 803 or fax 01895 425 996

## Beyond the tyre

Stocks Blocks have found the relationship with the Continental team to be 'excellent and professional with a personal service.' The Continental team continue to work closely with Alan to ensure that the tyres are performing and delivering to plan.

"The team at Continental understand the demands of our business to ensure that we get the best performance and service life from our tyre investment," said Alan.

Stocks Blocks has also taken advantage of Continental's unrivalled technical expertise and support available through the Continental Technical Services helpline.

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