



“ Although initially we mainly produced machine cast lead sheet, over the years we have matured into the only UK-based lead sheet manufacturer able to offer customers the entire range of lead products. From machine cast lead and rolled lead, to lead ancillaries, medical lead and sand cast lead – we supply them all at competitive prices. It’s a unique position we are very proud of! ”

**BOUDEWIJN TUINENBURG**  
Managing Director, Midland Lead Ltd

**IN 1983, MIDLAND LEAD LTD BEGAN MANUFACTURING LEAD SHEET FOR THE LOCAL BUILDING INDUSTRY, ON A MODEST 6.5-ACRE SITE IN DERBYSHIRE, USING ONE MELTING KETTLE, A CASTING MACHINE AND TWO CUTTING LINES.**

Since then the company has matured into a quality manufacturer and supplier of lead products to the UK construction market and beyond. What’s more, our commitment to quality and innovation means Midland Lead has become the

only UK lead manufacturer that can offer the entire range of lead products: Construction (both milled and machine cast), Healthcare and Heritage.

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# WE BELIEVE THE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS IS BASED ON OUR:

## COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

Right from the beginning our premium cast lead sheet has been quality-certified by the British Board of Agrément (BBA) – the UK's major approval body for new construction products and installers. And with each addition to our lead product range manufactured onsite, rigorous quality checks are in place to ensure all products perform as they should.

## CUSTOMER-DRIVEN PRODUCTION AND SERVICE

We pride ourselves in taking our customers seriously. Our onsite facilities enable us to produce lead products that conform exactly to our customers' specifications. Our sales team (in-house and on the road) makes sure we are able to respond to any customer requirement, whether they ask for competitive prices, technical back-up, next-day delivery or marketing support to help increase sales.

## TEAM WORK WITH EXPERTS

Whether we work with the National House-Building Council (NHBC) for our premium cast lead sheet, or Radiation Protection Advisers for our Healthcare lead and lead-lined boards, we do so to make sure our customers can use our lead products with the quality reassurance and technical back-up they need.

## FOCUS ON RESPONSIBILITY

Because we operate in a challenging production environment, we see it as our duty to continually improve on our green performance and minimise any potential risk related to our production process. We have taken a pro-active approach to our environmental and health & safety responsibilities and are proud to be BSI certified for successfully implementing both an environmental management system and an occupational health & safety system.

“ The British Board of Agrément and British Standards Institution are not competing product quality systems. They're complementary – certification by either should give specifiers confidence in a product's performance. A BBA certificate often relates to an innovative element of manufacture, but innovative process or not, our approval is granted only if a product has a level of performance at least as good as, or better than, that specified by the British Standards. And that's the case with Midland Lead's lead products. ”

## ALAN THOMAS

Sales and Communications Director, British Board of Agrément (BBA)

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**Battersea Town Hall**, London; **Cardiff Castle**, South Wales; **Royal Pavilion**, Brighton; **Kedleston Hall**, Derby;  
**Mafrag Hospital**, Abu Dhabi; **St Barts Hospital**, London; **Garnavel Hospital**, Glasgow

“ I can confirm that NHBC is satisfied; having viewed production processes for this method of casting lead and with a valid BBA certificate, that this lead can be acceptable to NHBC when installed within the scope of the certificate and to normal codes of practices. I trust this provides the confirmation and assurance that you seek from NHBC. ”

**MARK CARTER**  
Technical officer, National House-Building Council (NHBC)



**One of the most common usages of lead sheet is as a weatherproofing material in the building industry. Both our premium cast and rolled lead sheet are produced to the highest industry standards and are suitable for all building applications, including flat and pitched roofs, flashings, gutters, and parapets.**

Midland Lead, based in the East Midlands, has been producing lead sheet for the construction industry since 1983, initially via a direct machine casting process. During this production process a water-cooled, rotating drum is immersed into a tray of molten lead, causing the lead to solidify. The lead sheet formed on the drum is stripped off and wound onto spools, before it is cut into lead sheet rolls of the customer's required width and length.

More recently, Midland Lead has teamed up with a European rolled lead sheet producer, to produce and distribute rolled lead sheet to the UK construction industry. Rolled lead sheet is manufactured by passing a solid slab of lead back and forth on a rolling mill between closing rollers.

Whatever production process is used to manufacture lead sheet rigorous quality control is in place in accordance with a quality plan certified by the British Board of Agrément (machine cast lead) or the British Standards Institution (rolled lead). Quality checks ensure that the lead sheet produced is at least 99.95% pure, and that each lead roll ready for despatch has both a consistent thickness (+/- 5%) and the UK standard specification weight.

On top of the above mentioned quality assurances, associations such as the National House-Building Council are confident in the performance of our lead sheet. Probably because of our proven track record; over 600,000 tonnes of our lead sheet has been used successfully

on landmark buildings throughout the UK and worldwide, from Blackpool Tower and Westminster Abbey to Cardiff Castle and Brighton's Royal Pavilion.

Midland Lead Construction also offers a full range of ancillary products to the building industry, to enable our lead to be used to its full potential. Working with the correct tools and applying the right finishing touches to a lead project make all the difference. Our most popular lead ancillaries include patination oil, ML fixing clips, lead slates and lead joints. For full details on our ancillaries, please go to our website.

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**In recent years, we have combined our knowledge of shielding technology with our experience in manufacturing lead sheet to produce lead products suitable for radiation protection in the health sector. These products, which include thin lead sheet and lead-lined boards, are all manufactured to the highest standard and comply with specific requirements for use in radiation protection.**

The most popular medical products we manufacture are our lead-lined plaster and plywood boards. All lead-lined boards are purpose-made in our onsite workshop. There, our premium cast lead sheet or rolled lead, with a thickness range of 0.44 to 3.55mm, is cut and prepared ready for bonding. Standard sizes of boards are 2.4m x 600mm, but other sizes are available to order too. A specially-developed bonding medium is applied to a single side of the plaster or plywood boards and the correct amount of pressure is applied to form a bond. Once the bond is complete, the lead is trimmed to size by guillotine, making it flush with the board. And last but not least, the finished product is quality checked to ensure it meets our customer's specification.

As part of our medical support package, we regularly team up with radiation industry experts to give our customers the technical knowledge and support they need. In the past, Midland Lead Healthcare has commissioned a certified Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) to produce a generic guide for the use of our thin lead and lead-lined boards in radiation protection applications. On another occasion, we teamed up with an RPA to test the performance of our machine cast lead and rolled lead for radiation shielding purposes. More importantly, whatever your needs are and wherever we can, Midland Lead Healthcare will give you the support you're after.

Apart from manufacturing thin lead sheet and lead-lined boards for radiation protection in veterinary and dental surgeries and hospitals, Midland Lead Healthcare can supply a range of related lead shielding products. Working together with other medical suppliers and manufacturers, we can offer our customers the ease of ordering all their radiation shielding products from us in one go, with the assurance of excellent quality.

“ Niall Highbee, Radiation Protection Adviser: “Upon finishing my study to compare the performance of rolled lead and machine cast lead in radiation shielding, I can confirm that apart from cost advantages, Midland Lead's machine cast lead has no discernible differences from rolled lead and affords reliable precise attenuation of X-rays as predicted by the British Standard BS 4094 part 1 and BS 4094 part 2 and other standards. ”

**NIALL HIGHBEE**  
Radiation Protection Adviser

**SIEMENS**



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“ We have used Midland Lead as a lead and ancillaries supplier for a refurbishment project at Dover Castle in Kent for English Heritage. For that project, our supplies were usually delivered within 72 hours. Should we need to chase up a delivery, a telephone call to their office was all that’s needed. Also, specific sizes of lead that we’ve ordered, were provided without additional charges. And the ability to order all ancillary products from one source has been very convenient. All in all, Midland Lead provides an excellent service. ”

**JOHN BAILEY**  
Director, Maidstone Roofing Services Ltd



**Midland Lead has been supplying lead sheet to UK building projects for nearly 30 years. Our premium cast lead sheet has been successfully used to weatherproof historic buildings such as Kedleston Hall and Cardiff Castle. The experience and knowledge we have gained from our relationship with the heritage experts in the field has made us decide to produce traditional sand cast lead for these unique heritage jobs.**

This way, we can give specifiers, architects and contractors the option to either use our premium machine cast lead or our traditional sand cast lead for the restoration job – both manufactured to the highest standard possible.

Our traditional sand cast lead is produced in much the same way as it has been for centuries. A casting table is filled with a mixture of sands and the surface is made smooth. Molten lead is then poured onto the sand bed and forms a cast sheet. While in molten form, a strike (a bar of wood with a handle at

each side) is used to run off the excess and produce the thickness code. The sheet is then rolled and cut into the required specifications.

Midland Lead Heritage has enhanced its sand cast production process by combining traditional manufacturing skills with modern technology to produce sand cast lead of superb quality and consistency.

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