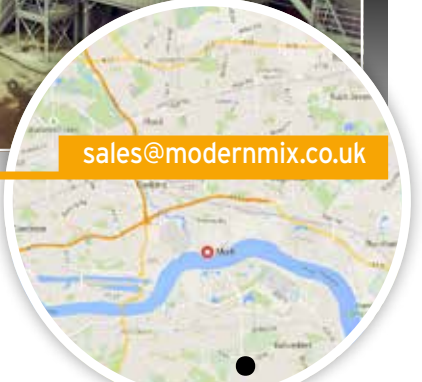




[sales@modernmix.co.uk](mailto:sales@modernmix.co.uk)



# Special K! Say goodbye to volumetrics - the Kaizen is coming

Eastern philosophy comes to East End of London as **MixIt** modernises fleet

THE ancient Japanese philosophy of Kaizen is not the first thing you think of when talking about concrete plants in London's East End where 'the Orient' is a football club not the land of the rising sun.

Kaizen means continuous improvement and is a guiding principle behind many global corporations, small businesses and individuals to simply do better.

Now it is shaking up an unexpected area of industry as the name for a new type of revolutionary vehicle at one of Britain's fastest growing concrete firms.

The Kaizen was designed and invented by Jim Taylor, the managing director of London-based MixIt as an antidote to the volumetric model used as an industry standard.

It has been so successful that MixIt intends to replace its fleet with the Kaizen - and do it before the volumetric is outlawed by legislation.

Jim enlisted the help of John Yarnall, of Neilson Hydraulics in Sheffield, to design and manufacture the Kaizen and Cantech Controls in Henley-on-Thames, to develop the advanced control system.

MixIt, which recently opened its third site - a £1.2 million complex in Barking - hopes to

have four Kaizen vehicles by the end of the year rising to 18 in a fleet of over 60.

Jim explained: "The Kaizen can do high strength, standard and designated mixes, it can do normal screed, flowable screed, waterproof concrete, coloured, blend cements and plasticised, air entrained, water cement ratios and with full batch records giving traceability for each load."

Jim said the time when volumetrics are consigned to the dustbin cannot come too soon as controversy brews over the old-style trucks.

A loophole means volumetrics are classed as 'engineering plant' so they

can exceed the normal weight limit for vehicles of their size - sometimes by 12 tonnes or more.

Jim added: "A lot of people already say volumetrics should be banned. The Kaizen is more flexible, more efficient, wastes less and mixes a much bigger variety of concrete."

Kaizen vehicles are computer controlled to stop less scrupulous drivers tampering with the measurements and overcharging customers or selling product on the side.

With concern over safety for other road users, the Kaizen will operate as a normal commercial vehicle for its size - 44 tonnes over six axles as the law requires.

MixIt was awarded gold by the Freight Operator Recognition Scheme, the industry benchmark for the most environmental fleets.

It adds to an impressive haul of industry standards including BSI Kitemarks 9001 (Management Systems) and 14001 (Environmental Management) and working towards BES 6001 and BSI 27001.



For further enquiries go to [www.mixit.co.uk](http://www.mixit.co.uk) or ring 020 7538 2266