

Made in

ENGLAND

This issue we visit the home of Pacet, the makers of one of the world's leading ranges of cooling fans and as we found out, a whole lot more besides....

Interesting company, Pacet. Run by an interesting man with an interesting range of products. As close to a household name as automotive aftermarket companies get. On a par with Spax, Samco and Demon Tweaks.

They are also the only UK cooling fan supplier to design and make their products here in the UK! (they do buy their motors from an Italian supplier, albeit).

Pacet was founded in 1985 by Peter Eva and Anthony Clowes, and the name is an anagram of their initials, 'P', 'E' and 'T' from Peter 'A' and 'C' from Anthony Clowes. Simple really!

Clowes departed some years ago, leaving Peter in sole control. Initial product was a range of windscreen wipers, before oil coolers followed. The cooler part of the business was sold to

One of the Pacet International cooling fan range. This one's a 16in Club.

Marston Radiators, who in turn were almost immediately brought out by Nippon Denso.

Meanwhile, the item they've become synonymous with, was introduced as a summer line to compliment the wipers for the winter period. They kind of took over!

It was with the fans that Pacet's reputation grew. Quickly. So much so that they organically replaced the wiper blades in a natural way.

From the outset, Pacet's fans have always been beautifully made, and do what they say on the box. Keeping your engine cool, which from a range of cooling fans is all you can expect.

However, Peter Eva follows the train of thought 'we can do better than that' and seemingly each year they come up with upgrades to their range.

The Pacet team of 10, work from a



PETER EVA

Pacet boss Peter Eva is a charming man. He's of an age where most blokes are thinking of putting their feet up (I won't embarrass him by revealing his age although he's so nice he wouldn't mind!), but he's still passionate and fiercely driven. If I told you how old he is you'd put him at much younger. He's got the energy of a man half his years.

Martyn Morgan Jones will be doing an in-depth piece for us in a forthcoming issue on Peter's career in the specialist motoring industry, suffice to say he's led an amazing life. It takes a remarkable man to cycle home to the UK from Egypt, which is what he did!

From a specialist point of view, before co-founding Pacet, he also worked for the late Graham Hill at the legendary Speedwell operation in the early sixties, before moving on to Radbourne Racing.

In his 'spare time', he is one of the world's top breeders of Manchester Terriers. I predict his story will be one you'll want to read - coming soon.



Pacet spacers have rubber mounts.

I've described the other sectors that Pacet are active in, but here's a rundown of their product range in addition to their International automotive fans.

THE FULL INVENTORY IS:

ROOF MOUNTED FANS – as per dog van rooves etc, etc and also to be found on chilled goods trailers.

BULKHEAD FANS – popular with chilled distribution hauliers.

BONNET FANS – particularly popular with the off-road fraternity.

PERSONAL FANS – for cooling interiors of cars etc.

TRANSMISSION COOLERS – sold under the Trucool SR® including the beautiful McLaren Mercedes SLR diff cooler.

Moving onto the International range of cooling fans – these are available as kits or individually.

HERE'S THE RANGE:

CLUB – their most popular seller with diameters of 8in, 9in, 10in, 11in, 12in, 13in, 14in & 16in. Typically a 16in Club, is ideal for Cobra replica use and will have a 77mm depth and cost circa £110.

PROFAN – another popular specialist choice, especially on high performance cars doing track work. It's a beefier assembly than the Club, with a depth of 89mm. 16in costs around £134. Available in 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 16in.

THINLINE – ideal for where space is at a premium with a depth of just 54mm. Shares the some basic design as the Club range. Available in 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 16in.

run at the factory before being passed for quality.

Each one is separately tested for radio suppression, is waterproof, airtight and also spark-proof, which when you consider that an engine is a fire risk, is a reassuring thing, to put it mildly.

Another point worth remembering about the motors, is that they are quiet and will give years of life. What's the point in buying a lesser product if you've only got to replace it within a few months?

Another massively important constituent of a fan is the blades. There's lot of conjecture about the

virtues of straight or curved blades, with each quality manufacturer having their own take on the subject. Suffice to say, Pacet fans feature a straight blade because they believe that it moves more air for any given amp draw. Although a curved blade can be quieter.

Although each installation is different, the basic requirement is to maximise the movement of air with the lowest possible amp draw. For a while many years ago, Pacet were persuaded to use curved blades, but found that the only solution was to throw them in the skip! As Peter Eva says: "No propelled aircraft uses a curved blade!"

Pacet fans feature individually made blades, which are then balanced, straight from the mould. They feature 11 unevenly spaced blades rather than the more usual 10, which they reckon reduces noise (or harmonic throb, to be precise). Their blades are also bigger at the end of the tip as this again minimises noise and enhances performance.

You see, these are natural enemies of cooling fans. Noise and diminished performance. If you have a fan that sounds like a wind tunnel then you'll know what I'm on about, likewise if it whirrs away like a mad food mixer, it'll be close to useless.

Likewise, how you mount your fan is crucially important. If it's not fixed properly, the vibrations will do it harm in no time, while it'll also be playing an off-key tune with the chassis rails causing our old 'mate' harmonic throb to rear his ugly head again!

Pacet fans also have spacers, which are rubber-backed (yep, help reduce noise, you got it!) and are manufactured in-house from top quality OEM PA66GF plastic, a strong, heat tolerant material, and they have four moulded-in (with brass fixings) internals so they're compatible with other makes as a direct replacement. Cunningly they also have four slide-in mounts, which offer 90° and straight 5mm thread options.

Another Pacet benefit is that the outer



An early 'tongue-in-cheek' Pacet badge.

edge thickness is 35mm and the 'H' centre just 50mm, not including motor and spacer, making fitting easier.

I like the fact too, that the centre is multi-holed enabling a wide range of cable locations.

Unlike some manufacturers, Pacet offer their fans as 'pushers' (mounted in front of the radiator) and 'pullers' (mounted between engine and radiator), as a genuine 'reversible' item. Some so-called reversibles are merely 'pullers' run backwards. Fine as long as you are prepared to accept impaired performance.

For those that love such stuff, Pacet fans run at 11amps, with a start up draw of just 22amps. Beware competitors that run at over 20amps and 'spike' at 70amps on start-up. When was the last time you saw a 70amp fuse in your local motor factor's?

We all know about Pacet's ability to keep your engine cool, but take a look around when you're out and about. If it's got a fan fitted there's a fair chance Pacet were involved in it, somewhere!

I think it's a genuine privilege to have cooling fans of such superb quality, more so that they are made right here in the UK, by a cracking company run by very nice people. Long may it continue.



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Ahem, a few fans shrouds await the construction process!