



# KIRKLEES TOP 100

COMPANIES 2023/24

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### GET IN TOUCH:

**e-mail:**  
Kirkleestop100@hud.ac.uk  
**website:** Kirklees100.org  
**Twitter:** @KirkleesTop100  
**LinkedIn:**  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kirklees-top-100/>

# Welcome to The Kirklees Top 100 Companies Careers Edition 2023/2024

**T**he Kirklees Top 100 Companies, Careers Edition showcases some of the fantastic businesses located right here on your doorstep. Kirklees is home to a wide range of businesses across multiple industries, many of which offer exciting opportunities, whether you're just starting out or looking to further develop your career.

The brochure highlights some of the local businesses that have shown resilience, growth and innovation, despite the increasing challenges faced by our economy. These businesses help our local area to flourish and are part of the reason why Kirklees is such a fantastic place to live, learn and work. As well as a thriving business community, our educational facilities offer something to be immensely proud of. We are fortunate to have three top performing Colleges, an award winning University and excellent training providers. Every year they help to teach, shape and create dynamic, skilled individuals ... could this be you? In terms of location, Kirklees sits at the centre of the Leeds, Manchester

and Sheffield City Region triangle, giving us many opportunities for young people to build a career in the heart of the Northern Powerhouse. Our Huddersfield and Dewsbury Blueprint projects are now underway, and together with the Cultural Heart project, are transforming our Town Centres. Plans for high quality, innovative culture, arts, and leisure will not only improve the attractiveness of town centres, they will also bring a wealth of opportunity. Our Top 100 contains small businesses, but also international organisations and household brand names, with a long-standing heritage. So, whether your interests lie in the creative sector, health, manufacturing, textiles, pharmaceuticals, digital or retail, Kirklees has a lot to offer. Whether you've already found your passion, or still looking for inspiration, this guide can help you on your journey. A journey that can remain local. So, what are you waiting for? Dive into this Top 100 Careers Edition to find out more from some amazing companies, based right on your doorstep!

*Bob Cryan*

**Professor Bob Cryan CBE DL**  
**CMgr CCMI FEng**  
**Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive,**  
**University of Huddersfield**

*Sue Cooke*

**Sue Cooke**  
**Chief Executive**  
**3M Buckley Innovation Centre**

*Cathy Scott*

**Cllr Cathy Scott**  
**Leader, Kirklees Council**

*Martin Shaw*

**Martin Shaw**  
**Huddersfield Hub**

*Please note: inclusion in the Kirklees Top 100 is based on objective criteria using accounts published in the FAME database prior to July 2023 and does not imply endorsement from the partner organisations.*

# An entrepreneur in Kirklees



**S**am Teale, 21, is the Founder and Managing Director of the award-winning video production company Sam Teale Productions LTD, based right here in Kirklees. We asked Sam to provide us with an insight into his journey as an Entrepreneur, how he found his passion for his chosen industry, the lessons he learnt along the way and what drives him to succeed in his field.

## How it started...

My story began at 13; The YouTube lifestyle inspired me, and I loved the idea of being paid to play games and build a community. As my taste in YouTube videos changed, I watched more and more videos that reviewed everyday gadgets, and I thought I knew what the world needed: A 14-year-old telling them what to buy.

*“I learnt that if you really want something, you can make it happen”*

So that was the start of the channel which consisted of me reviewing products. My Dad bought me a GoHenry card, and I reviewed it on my channel. The company commented on my video, saying they enjoyed it, and asked me to post my video on their YouTube page. I immediately said yes, and then I had another idea; I checked their YouTube, and found they had no videos. I saw an opportunity, emailed their marketing team and asked if I could create some content. I was sent a brief, I filmed the video and was

paid a fee. I made it work. I was being paid to make videos. I found that it was possible, and learnt that if you really want something, you can make it happen. This was the start of my journey.

## The first steps into the industry...

With the money I made, I saved for a phone gimbal, which is a piece of equipment that keeps your phone stable for smooth footage. I went on holiday and filmed, edited and uploaded the video to YouTube. That video was shared by the hotel, and the airline, and it is still being viewed on YouTube today. I think it has now reached over 74,000 views! I realised I enjoyed making emotive content behind the camera, and this was the start of my production company.

## The journey so far...

At 17, I was filming for Budweiser China. I was being trusted to work with large brands, all before turning 18. Fast forward to now, I'm 21, I employ four people, we sponsor HTAFC, we made one of the biggest Christmas adverts of 2022. We were also recently taken out to Disney World, Florida with a magical charity to film for them. Oh, and did I mention the team's average age is 21?

*"I am nowhere near where I want to be, but I am living the dream I once dreamt of"*

## Some lessons learnt along the way ...

The biggest lesson I've learned is that being young and naive is such a benefit. When I was younger, I hated being the youngest in the room; I would try hide my age as people told me it would be a turn-off for potential new business, but now I embrace it. Being young is a mindset; it is not about your age. Youth breeds

naivety, and I love that. I wouldn't be where I am now if I worried about competition, or about what other people were doing. I wouldn't be where I am now if I listened to people telling me not to get an office, or to consider contractors instead of employing people. I believed in myself, just like I did when I was 15, I knew that if I wanted something, I could get it.

*"I just had to work hard and believe wholeheartedly that I would get there"*

## What's next ...

Right now, I'm working for myself, the boss of a great team and working with the best clients in the whole world. We will keep growing, and our aim is to become the best video production company in the world, I am going to put everything into it.

## Passion, motivation and inspiration...

The thing that motivates me is living a life that I enjoy; Jimmy Carr says the key to a happy life is "Enjoying

the passage of time", and that is precisely it. I want to wake up every morning and enjoy my day, I want to make other people's day through video content and by being a lovely human being. I want to make the best video content, that moves people and makes people think, content that takes people out of their day-to-day life and gives them a second to live in someone else's world. I want to use video to make the world a better place.

There are also a few people who inspire me in Business. Ben Francis, CEO of Gymshark is one of these people. Ben created a business, aged 20, just 11 years ago, that would end up being worth 1 billion dollars. He had the confidence as a kid to go and create a business that would challenge the biggest brands in the world. He was naive and believed in himself. I also really love the story of Steven Bartlett; he believed in an idea and created a business that ended up being a social chain, a massive company, which he exited in 2020, that ended up on the stock market. Again, he was confident and believed in an idea.

## My advice to those starting out in pursuing their dream career ...

The bit of advice I would give anyone starting their dream career is simple. If you enjoy it, and I mean proper enjoy it, then pursue it. Be the best person you can be, and make sure you make it a success. I recently discovered that the average person spends approximately 90,000 hours at work in their lifetime. Make those hours as fun as you can, make sure you enjoy them as that is a massive portion of your life.

## My favourite quote....

*"If you don't do it, someone else will"*



You can find out more about Sam Teale Productions at [www.samtealeproductions.com](http://www.samtealeproductions.com), e-mail them at [info@samtealeproductions.com](mailto:info@samtealeproductions.com) or follow them on social media.

# The top 10

## 1. ISAAC TIMMINS LTD (MYERS GROUP)



**We all know this company as the Myers Group but why is the parent company called Isaac Timmins Ltd?**

And what link does Myers have to do with some of Huddersfield's greatest landmarks?

Well, it was originally founded as Isaac Timmins Ltd in 1929 when Hervey Myers bought housebuilding company Isaac Timmins and the Myers Group can trace its modern-day heritage back to 1959 when the Readymix Huddersfield concrete business was incorporated. The Readymix operation has since expanded into a regional business with four strategically located manufacturing plants.

Its concrete was used to build Emley Moor mast in 1969 and also the M62 motorway and the landmark Scammonden Dam bridge. Group companies also include Johnsons Wellfield quarries founded in 1854 and acquired by the Myers family in 1979. Johnsons Wellfield is Britain's leading supplier of natural hard Yorkstone and the only division in the group that sells nationwide. Its stone features on the imposing Creative Arts School at the University of Huddersfield.

Myers Building Supplies is a builders' merchant with 16 branches throughout Yorkshire. There are

also two Huddersfield focused specialist businesses - Myers Timber and Myers Skip Hire - and it also has a specialist kitchen department.

The Myers Group is now into its fourth generation run by co-directors, brother and sister James and Katie Berry, and employs 350 people across West Yorkshire. It invested more than £1m into its Huddersfield headquarters on Barr Street at Bradley Mills in 2020 and other branches have recently been renovated including Denby Dale and Penistone.

In 2022 Milnsbridge-based, family-run NIS Building Supplies became part of the Myers Group portfolio

and in 2023 Myers opened a branch in Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire. In the last few months Myers has installed 356 solar panels on its three buildings in Huddersfield to provide green energy and they hope they will generate around 131,000 kWh per annum with a CO2 reduction of 605 tonnes over the next 20 years.

The company has also invested in electric vehicles and worked hard to reduce waste and recycle more. Myers supports several charities including Kirkwood Hospice and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance with fundraising events in branches in 2021 and 2022 raising more than £2,100 for the air ambulance.



Katie Berry (Director) and James Berry (Managing Director) of Myers Group

## 2. UK GREETINGS LTD

**T**he Head Office for UK Greetings is based at Mill Street East in Dewsbury but its story starts in the USA back in 1906 when young entrepreneur Jacob Sapirstein had an idea and \$50 in his pocket.

He began by selling penny postcards from a handcart on the streets of Cleveland, Ohio, and the company, American Greetings, is now a global leader in celebrations with worldwide sales of £2bn. In the 1980's it expanded into the UK buying three established card companies - Rust Craft, Celebration Arts Group and Andrew Valentine. The companies continued to grow and merged in the late 1980s to form Carlton Cards. More UK companies joined Carlton in the

late 1990s into the 2000s and so UK Greetings was formed as the holding company for American Greetings' interests in the UK. The UK portfolio became a who's who for famous brands including Hanson White, Carlton, Camden Graphics, Gibson, Special Editions and Collage. In March 2008 UK Greetings Ltd became the legal entity of all American Greetings' operations. Since 2021 UK Greetings has partnered with the World Land Trust to support its carbon balanced paper programme. UK Greetings works with major global brands such as Disney, Marvel and Star Wars with their eye-catching images on its cards. 2023 marks 15 years of one of the most iconic cute characters of UK Greetings - Boofle.



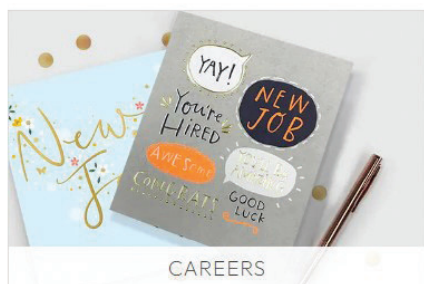
### WE ARE UK GREETINGS

We create greeting cards, gift dressings and social expressions products for big events, special occasions and those "saw-this-and-thought-of-you" moments of life. We're one of the largest direct to retail publishers, so you'll find our products just about everywhere!

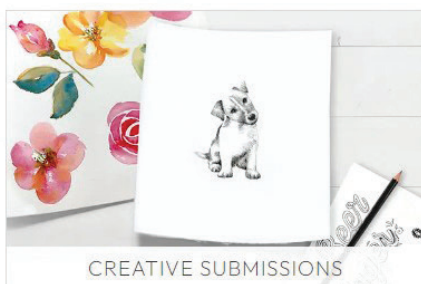
ABOUT US



OUR BRANDS



CAREERS



CREATIVE SUBMISSIONS

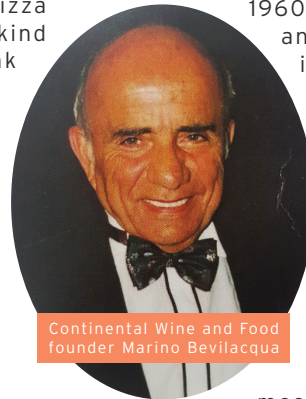


OUR STUDIOS

### 3. CONTINENTAL WINE AND FOOD LTD

**T**his Huddersfield company is one of the UK's leading wine and alcoholic drinks wholesalers and can produce 20 million litres of wine a year. It also provides some amazing Italian food too with its food and drink products now numbering more than 2,000. The business employs more than 140 people at its head office on Leeds Road and is a specialist in wine packaging from small bottles to wines in boxes and bulk supply. The company's Wine Development Manager and Master of Wine, Nicholas Tatham, leads an experienced team of Italian wine experts and buyers and CWF now represents more than 30 producers right across Italy from small, family-owned wineries to large, modern cooperatives. CWF is the UK's largest producer of mulled wine and also imports specialist liqueurs and spirits. In the UK, CWF sells across the Midlands, the North and Scotland with depots in Huddersfield, Newcastle, Edinburgh and Glasgow serviced by a multi-temperature transport fleet of more than 30 vehicles.

CWF's food products feature pasta and rice including frozen pasta ready meals such as ravioli, tortellini and lasagne; pizza sauce and passata, any kind of toppings you can think of for pizzas; olive oils and balsamic vinegar; olives, gherkins, cured meats such as salami, pepperoni and even wild boar; Italian cheeses such as mascarpone and mozzarella; pesto, Italian breads, biscotti biscuits to drink with coffee, panettone cake and desserts such as tiramisu and traditional Italian ice-creams. Its large range of liqueurs include limoncello and amaretto. The company also exports across Europe, Asia and Africa. It's very environmentally aware, has 74% recycled glass in its green bottles and uses UK-based suppliers wherever it can for raw materials to reduce its carbon footprint. CWF was founded by Italian immigrant Marino Bevilacqua who went on to become one of Huddersfield's greatest



Continental Wine and Food founder Marino Bevilacqua

entrepreneurs.

Mr Bevilacqua, who died in August 2017 aged 85, founded CWF in 1960, supplying delicatessens and restaurants with imported Italian fare.

After later selling the business to a conglomerate for several million pounds he used the proceeds to establish building company MB Construction, going on to create the Da Sandro Ristorante and Pizzeria - one of Huddersfield's most renowned restaurants - and the Briar Court Hotel at Birchencliffe.

In typical entrepreneurial style Mr Bevilacqua bought back CWF for £1 when it was facing financial difficulties and it remains a family business.

As a property developer he built more than 500 houses in the Huddersfield area and 100 commercial premises which he rented out. His other business interests included classic cars and car dealerships.

The screenshot shows the CWF website with a navigation bar at the top: Portfolio > What We Do > About Us > Our Responsibilities > Contact. The main content area displays a grid of product images, each with a label below it:

- The Straw Hat** (White wine bottle)
- Silver Bay Point** (Red wine bottle)
- Perfetto Italian Gin** (Red bottle)
- Paradise Bay Cocktail Co.** (Green bottle)
- Jolly Roger Rum Liqueur** (Dark bottle)
- Mulled Wine** (Dark bottle)
- Nectars** (White bottle)
- Sandy Cove** (White bottle)
- Other Products** (Group of various bottles)

Below the 'Other Products' section, there is a list of categories: Liqueurs and Fortified Wine, Perry's, Imported Wine Portfolio, and UK Bottled Wines.

## 4. DR REDDY'S LABORATORIES (EU) LTD



**Dr Reddy's Laboratories is a pharmaceutical company with a major manufacturing site in Mirfield.**

The company globally was set up by Indian-born scientist, philanthropist and entrepreneur Dr K Anji Reddy in 1984, powered by his passion to make medicines more affordable. It now has more than 24,000 employees worldwide and millions of patients in 66 countries have access to Dr Reddy's products. The company was established in the UK in 2002 and is committed to saving the NHS money with its range of prescription medicines that includes gastrointestinal, neurology, cardiovascular, pain

**"This single event changed my life forever. I started dreaming of my own pharmaceutical company that would one day stand proud and tall."**

management, dermatology, oncology and anti-infection. Its website states: "Many people throughout the world do not have access to good health because they can't afford expensive medicines. Our generic formulations business addresses this urgent need by offering more than 200 high-quality generic versions of expensive innovator medicines at a fraction of the cost in over 80 countries around the world.

"We are able to make these medicines affordable because we manage the entire chain from producing the active ingredients to developing formulations to distributing them through our streamlined supply chain."

Dr Reddy's UK head office is in Beverley, Yorkshire, and it has a product development centre in Cambridge.

Dr Reddy, who died in 2013 aged 74, was born in India in 1939 and grew up watching his father make herbal pills and distribute them free of charge to those in need.

This meant medicine was in his

blood, as was a sense of public service and after earning a doctorate in Chemical Engineering he worked for six years at the state-owned Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd which stirred his entrepreneurial ambitions.

He left and in the next few years set up bulk drug manufacturing ventures and established Dr Reddy's Laboratories in 1984. This was all driven by his belief that medicines had to be affordable and accessible at prices people in India could afford.

He once said: "Since the beginning we have always dreamt big. For people of my generation

John F Kennedy was a hero.

When his seemingly impossible mission of landing a man on the moon was actually happening I woke up from my sleep on July 20, 1969, to hear Neil Armstrong say on the radio: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." This single event changed my life forever. I started dreaming of my own pharmaceutical company that would one day stand proud and tall."



Dr K Anji Reddy, founder of Dr Reddy's Laboratories

## 5. PPG ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS LTD

**The PPG plant in north Kirklees is Europe's largest paint manufacturing complex.**

PPG, which makes the famous Johnstone's paint brand, is based at a 65-acre site in Birstall where it has been since 1983. It employs more than 1,500 people across the UK and Ireland.

It's part of a global company manufacturing any kind of paint you can think of from car paint - two out of three cars made in Europe and North America use PPG paint technology - to industrial paint including coatings for drinks cans and paint for homes for the inside, outside, wood and metal. If anything can be painted, PPG has the product. Yet it didn't even start out as a paint company. It was founded in 1883 as Pittsburgh Plate Glass but retained the PPG moniker even though it diversified to become a paint manufacturer and supplier. It has 47,000 employees worldwide, operates in 70 countries, has 156 manufacturing centres and total yearly sales are around \$14 billion. PPG also has a very strong social conscience and one of its main community schemes is its Colourful

Communities programme which encourages its staff to volunteer their time and PPG products to brighten up their neighbourhoods.

In August 2023 more than 50 PPG employees spent five days repainting six classrooms and playground areas at St Patrick's Primary Academy primary school in Birstall. They also worked with a community arts group called We Belong Here, commissioning a mural that captured the importance of student well-being.

Other projects completed by the Birstall staff include enhancing the Hollybank Trust residential home for people with profound disabilities in Mirfield, renovating playground equipment at Mirfield Memorial Recreation Garden and transforming a neglected courtyard at Fairfield School in Batley for pupils with complex needs into a peaceful sensory garden.

Probably the biggest project saw 100 PPG volunteers transform Batley Railway Station. The shop and café, as well as the front of the building, were painted by the volunteers while a mural depicting iconic venues in the town - including the famous

Frontier club and Batley Bulldogs' Mount Pleasant ground - was created in the subway.

Another project saw 38 PPG volunteers and nine community volunteers refurbish Birstall Community Centre, putting in a new commercial kitchen and bathroom, modernising the windows and ceiling and giving the walls plenty of vibrant colour.

The colours there are especially suitable for people with visual impairments, the elderly and people suffering from dementia by painting walls, doors, frames and handrails in contrasting colours.

Since 2015, PPG has completed more than 470 Colourful Communities projects, enhancing the lives of more than 8.2 million people in 50 countries.



PPG volunteers carried out a transformative makeover at St Patrick's Primary Academy, Birstall

## 6. FINTEL PLC

**Well-known Huddersfield financial services company Fintel, run by Huddersfield Giants chairman Ken Davy, is the UK's leading financial and support services business. Fintel, based on St Andrews Road in Huddersfield, is also the parent company of the industry leading financial information, ratings and financial technology business, Defaqto.**

Fintel is committed to simplifying and improving the complex world of financial services and provides high quality comprehensive compliance and business support to thousands of financial advisers throughout the UK.

Fintel employs 480 people and was founded by its chairman, Ken, in 2002. Ken, who is now a non-executive director at Fintel, is a hugely respected figure in both the financial services sector and the local community.

In addition to the many awards Fintel has received under Ken's leadership, he has personally been awarded several outstanding contributions to financial services

and lifetime achievement awards, as well as an Honorary Doctorate in Business Administration from The University of Huddersfield and an Honorary Fellowship of the Chartered Insurance Institute. He is also chairman of Huddersfield Giants rugby league team.

In 2022, Fintel was accredited by employment specialists Best Companies as an Outstanding Company to Work For and one of the 20 Best Companies to Work For in the UK financial services sector.

Fintel joint chief executive Matt Timmins said:

"Embracing employee feedback is a fundamental part of our culture as we focus on building an environment where everyone can thrive. Our people are our driving force and when they succeed so does the business."



Fintel Company Director Ken Davy who is also Owner of Huddersfield Giants.



Fintel headquarters based on St Andrews Road in Huddersfield

## 7. CROSSROADS GROUP LTD

**C**rossroads Truck & Bus has been helping to keep businesses large and small on the road since 1968 by supplying and servicing Volvo commercial vehicles across Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

It is based in Birstall and also has eight other locations in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employing 350 people across the region, including 176 technicians and apprentices. The company sells new and

used trucks and also operates maintenance departments, offers service contracts, stocks parts and accessories and provides programmes to assist with fuel efficiency, driver training and safety.

In April 2022, Crossroads launched its 'Hauliers for Hunger' campaign in response to the cost-of-living crisis. Each depot is twinned with food banks supported by The Trussell Trust, a nationwide charity

that fights hunger across the UK. Crossroads donates £1 for every £1 that staff collect through fundraising events and customers can also

show their support by donating when they make use of two special demonstrator trucks which are decorated in Hauliers Against Hunger campaign livery. The Crossroads team has donated more than £100,000 in cash and food to the project so far.

In 2021 and 2022, Crossroads made special one-off payments to its staff to help in the cost-of-living crisis. Crossroads Truck & Bus Managing Director Ian Middleton said: "We aim to be more than a dealer and regard our customers as partners and friends."



Crossroads Truck and Bus Managing Director Ian Middleton



Crossroads Truck & Bus Ltd employees donating £4,300 to Leeds South and East Food Bank

## 8. MABEY HIRE LTD

**M**abey Hire is an award-winning hire company that also carries out major engineering projects and has been at the forefront of its industry for 60 years.

Based at Scout Hill in Dewsbury, it has a 70-strong engineering team among its 400 national workforce who have completed temporary works schemes for some of the most complex and largest construction and infrastructure projects in the UK.

Temporary works are needed at the early stage of huge construction projects such as propping for bridges while they are being built and the company worked on the Mersey Gateway bridge in Widnes, a multi-million pound scheme that took more than three years to build across the Mersey estuary and 80,000 vehicles now use it every day. It opened in October 2017 and provided relief from the huge traffic congestion in the area by forming part of a wider regeneration project and a new improved link road between north Cheshire and Merseyside.



Mabey Hire Ltd. Propping on the Mersey Gateway bridge in Widnes before the concrete was installed

Mabey provides a complete service from design, supply, installation and monitoring for planned, reactive and emergency projects and also has the UK's widest range of temporary works equipment for hire.

Safety is top of the agenda and Mabey has achieved the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents' President's award after

11 consecutive years getting the RoSPA Gold award.

Chief Executive David Adams said: "We are committed to continually improving what we do to make sure our people work in a safe place, whether that's at a desk in our offices, at one of our 16 depots, out on site or on the road. Everyone home safe, every day - that's what we aim to achieve."

## 9. AY & Y.PATEL (DEWSBURY) LIMITED

**T**his family company runs petrol stations in West Yorkshire and invested £2m

into two of them in 2022.

The business was originally set up in Savile Town in Dewsbury but

is now based at the Three Nuns Service Station on Huddersfield Road in Mirfield which it redeveloped in 2019.

Last year it carried out a £1.5m transformation of its Shell station on Leeds Road in Bradford to include a modern Spar shop and also invested £500,00 redeveloping a station on Roseville Road in Leeds.

AY & Y.Patel now has four forecourts with Preston-based James Hall & Co. Ltd which is Spar UK's primary wholesaler and distributor for the north of England.

Shaheena Patel, Head of Operations at AY & Y.Patel Dewsbury Ltd, said: "Our association with James Hall & Co Ltd is fantastic. We have a hand in hand relationship and really feel we are valued by the team there who work together with us to support our business ambitions. We have exciting plans in place for two further sites with James Hall & Co Ltd in due course."



AY and Y Patel on Leeds Road in Bradford, West Yorkshire

## 10. RELIANCE PRECISION

**T**his high technology company based in Lepton makes specialist engineering parts for machinery working in the toughest climates.

This includes space, under-sea craft, aerospace and unmanned vehicles along with vital components and production assembly systems for businesses. In recent years, Reliance has grown into new sectors such as satellites, bionic prosthetics and DNA analysis instruments.

The precise nature of its work means it manufactures and measures in microns which is 1,000 times smaller than a millimetre. The business was founded in 1920 in Huddersfield as Reliance Gear Company Ltd and in the 1930s manufactured its own Reliance washing machine but as the range and complexity of its work advanced into precision instrumentation it was renamed Reliance Precision in 2005. The components it manufactures range from specialist screws to

complete sub-assemblies for rotary and linear motion.

Reliance runs an apprentice scheme and has taken on six apprentices in 2023.

The six are Felix Watson-Evans, George Brook, Joshua Ellis, Han

Barden-Nash, Sam Freudemann and Harry Baxter.

All have recently left local high schools including Honley High, King James', Holmfirth High, Shelley College, Moor End Academy and Huddersfield Grammar School.



The six Reliance Precision apprentices 2023

# Significant organisations

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**K**irklees has a population of about 425,000 people across Huddersfield and Dewsbury and all need the services provided by Kirklees Council to some extent or other.

Many people only think of the council emptying the bins and being responsible for maintaining our roads but that's only the start. For the council - which is run by elected local politicians and administered by around 8,000 staff - is also responsible for schools, planning decisions, social services including providing financial care packages for the disabled, environmental health, libraries, collecting council tax and business rates, major road improvement schemes, taxi licensing and licensing pubs and clubs, looking after children in care, arranging fostering and even dealing with nuisance neighbours.

The council's new leader is Cllr Cathy Scott and it has just appointed a new chief executive, Steve Mawson from Gloucestershire County Council.

## UNIVERSITY OF HUDDERSFIELD

**T**he university's history dates back to 1841 when it began as the Young Men's Mental Improvement Society with around 400 students.

It became a University in 1922 and now has more than 20,000 students from more than 130 countries who contribute an estimated £300m to the Huddersfield economy.

Since Prof Bob Cryan - who comes from Deighton - was appointed Vice Chancellor in 2007 the university has been transformed into one of the best in the country, winning a clutch of awards and its eye-catching new buildings have changed Huddersfield's skyline, a constant reminder of how vital the university now is to the town's economy and prosperity.

The university's staff rank in the top three in England for the proportion who hold doctorates, have higher degrees and hold teaching qualifications.

The University was awarded the prestigious TEF Gold for teaching excellence in 2023.

## KIRKLEES COLLEGE

**K**irklees College was formed in 2008 with a merger of Huddersfield Technical College and Dewsbury College to become one of the biggest in the country with a main centre in each town plus other specialist teaching hubs.

Its 300 vocational courses include construction, engineering, manufacturing, animal care, apprenticeships, business, hospitality and catering, hair and beauty, health and social care and it also offers music, performing arts and media courses. Kirklees College is one of the leading apprenticeship providers in the UK, training more than 1,000 apprentices with over 1,000 employers each year.



In 2023, the college was ranked in the top 10 further education colleges for apprenticeship achievement in England.

## CALDERDALE AND HUDDERSFIELD NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

**T**he Trust employs more than 6,000 staff at its two main hospitals, Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and Calderdale Royal Hospital, as well as in community sites, health centres and patients' homes.

In its last inspection by the Care Quality Commission in June 2018 it was rated Good and cares for around 248,000 people in the Huddersfield

area and 205,000 in Calderdale.

A new Accident and Emergency unit has just been built at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary which will open in autumn 2023, part of a wider £200m investment into health care by the Trust.

In 2022/23 the Trust cared for more than 113,000 people as inpatients or day cases. More than 457,000 people attended outpatients, almost 174,000 went to accident and emergency for treatment and more than 4,300 babies were delivered.

There were more than 337,000 adult services contacts by the Trust's community teams as well as 223,000 contacts by its therapy services.

## MID YORKSHIRE TEACHING NHS TRUST

**T**he Trust runs Dewsbury and District Hospital, Pontefract Hospital, Pinderfields Hospital in Wakefield and community health services, providing care for more than half a million people.

It employs 9,200 staff throughout the Trust. Dewsbury and District Hospital treats over 340,000 patients every year - around 90,000 in accident and emergency - and provides urgent and emergency care, diagnostics, elective care, midwifery services and care of the elderly services throughout north Kirklees. It admits around 17,000 patients annually. In 2022, the Trust's leadership was rated as good as was community health services for adults, community dental services and community health inpatient services.

## KIRKLEES ACTIVE LEISURE

**K**irklees Active Leisure (KAL) is a charitable trust which manages 13 leisure centres and swimming pools on behalf of Kirklees Council.

It also manages Bradley Park Golf Course in Bradley, Huddersfield. Since it was created in 2002 more than £60m has been reinvested by Kirklees Council and KAL into local leisure centres. It employs 635 people and is governed by a board of 10 trustees. KAL centres have around 3 million visits per year with more than 26,000 members and over 7,000 people doing swimming lessons. Apart from the gym equipment and swimming pools, organised classes range from gentle exercises for older folk through to high energy body pumping workouts and studio cycling.

# Significant companies

*Major companies who contribute a great deal to our business community and offer rewarding careers for local people*

## SYNGENTA

**S** yngenta has been a major employer in Huddersfield at its landmark site on Leeds Road for decades and is also greatly involved in community and charity work across Kirklees.

As one of the world's leading agriscience companies, it helps millions of farmers worldwide grow higher yields with a range of chemical-based products that help protect plants from weeds, pests and disease.

Syngenta community and business



The 2023 apprentices at Syngenta in Huddersfield

relations manager Carl Sykes said: "We continue to grow our

site activities, investing in our apprenticeship programme, providing employment opportunities for local people and remain committed to keeping professional and skilled manufacturing jobs in Kirklees for many years to come."

The company - formerly ICI and then Zeneca - employs about 450 people in Huddersfield and has invested millions of pounds into the site in recent years. Around 80% of its employees, ranging from chemists to engineers, live in Kirklees.

## CUMMINS TURBO TECHNOLOGIES

**C** ummins employs just over 1,000 people at its base on St Andrews Road, Huddersfield, where it manufactures medium to heavy-duty diesel engine turbos and has just celebrated its 70th anniversary.

The story began in March 1952 as Holset Engineering Co Ltd founded by business partners Brian Holmes and Paul Croset - hence the name Holset which combines their surnames - and

began manufacturing turbochargers in the town in 1958 before it was bought by Cummins in 1973.

Around 40% of the world's lorries are powered by a Holset-branded turbocharger including major names such as Volvo, Scania, DAF, MAN and Ford.

Cummins also designs and manufactures turbochargers for buses, trains and ships.

The company is very community

mind and provides volunteers for schemes such as a project to set up a Huddersfield Riverside Nature Park

alongside the River Colne near to Huddersfield town centre.



## MARS

**E** veryone knows about the famous Mars chocolate bars - but that's just a fraction of what this global company does even though it has close links to Kirklees.

It's also a major



Staff packing pet food at the Mars factory in Birstall

manufacturer of pet foods and treats with a factory on Oakwell Way in Birstall where it solely focuses on treats for cats and dogs such as dental sticks and chews with the well-known brands including Pedigree Rodeo and Schmackos.

Mars is a huge employer for the Kirklees area with well over 1,000 people working in Birstall round the clock on the production lines.

The big brand dog and cat food names

Mars produces include Whiskas, Pedigree, Iams, Sheba and Cesar. The confectionary brands also include Snickers, Twix, Galaxy and Maltesers along with Orbit chewing gum. Foods include Dolmio pasta sauces and Ben's Original rice.

Mars was founded in 1911 when Frank Mars made the first sweets in the kitchen at his home in Washington, USA. It now employs 130,000 people at 454 sites in 80 countries.

## INCORA (FORMERLY WESCO)

**A** ircraft consist of tens of thousands of parts but if something needs replacing where do you get it from?

Well, Incora - formed when two major aircraft parts companies Wesco Aircraft and Pattonair joined together in 2020 - have consolidated their Clayton West and Cleckheaton sites into a new one at Mirfield where they employ around 180 people. It's

a global company which stocks well over half-a-million components from more than 6,000 different suppliers including engines, airframes, landing gear, electronics, bearings, sensors, chemicals and tools.

The company has thousands of customers and its huge number of suppliers means they only need to go to one place for their parts rather than trying to source them from

individual businesses.

Wesco was founded in the USA in 1953 and expanded into Europe in 1988. Pattonair was founded in Weybridge, UK, in 1970.

Major customers include aircraft and engine manufacturers such as Boeing, Airbus, Rolls Royce, Pratt and Whitney, General Electric and GKN Aerospace.

# Significant companies

## LV=

**I**t is one of the biggest insurance and financial names around and has had a call centre spread over two floors at the Folly Hall Mills complex at the bottom of Chapel Hill in Huddersfield since 2010 and now employs around 380 people.

Formerly known as Liverpool Victoria with a history stretching back to 1843, the insurance side includes home, car, travel, pet and life and in Huddersfield they specialise in motor insurance and Britannia Rescue vehicle break down cover.

As a mutual company it's owned by its policy holders, now has 1.25 million members and made an operating profit of £31m in 2022. It works with a range of financial advisers and through them sells LV= products including life insurance, income protection, investments and retirement income solutions such as equity release and fixed term annuities. LV= employs around 4,000 people nationwide and has more than 6.5 million customers.

It made a one-off payment of £750 to all its staff in October 2022 to help with the cost of living crisis.

## KOBER LTD

**I**n 2007 Forza Foods began supplying Asda with cooked meats from its first factory in Cleckheaton.

In 2011, having outgrown this site, it opened a bigger cooked meats factory 12 miles away in Normanton and this became Forza's new home with the site in Cleckheaton turned into a bacon and gammon factory and became Kober.

Now Forza and Kober have grown into a best-in-class manufacturing operation, supplying Asda with products from ham slices to salami and from pizza toppings to party food. Asda-owned International Procurement and Logistics (IPL) bought Forza and Kober in 2016. IPL chief executive Nick Scrase said at the time: "Our one defining strategy that drives our business model is to simplify supply chains by cutting out the middle-man and then passing these cost savings onto Asda customers."

Forza and Kober employ almost 400 people in Cleckheaton and around 1,700 in West Yorkshire but is looking to expand its workforce due to ever-increasing demand for its products. They have just launched a new joint website at [www.forzakober.com](http://www.forzakober.com)

## JOHN COTTON

**J**ohn Cotton is one of the UK's leading manufacturers of pillows, duvets and mattress protectors using the very latest fibre technology.

This Mirfield-based family company was set up in 1916 and now has a



Chairman John Cotton

1,000-strong workforce across its group of companies producing 20 million pillows and 10 million duvets

every year.

The group also includes the Slumberdown and Snuggledown brands along with John Cotton Europe which recently opened a factory in Poland, providing 100 new jobs.

In 2017, John Cotton bought Australia's leading pillow and duvet producing business, Tontine, which has an annual turnover of £25m, employs 90 people and is located near Melbourne.

The company is led by chairman John Cotton who took over from his father in 1965.

The business' sustainability credentials are impressive, diverting an estimated 1.7 billion plastic bottles from landfill to recycle them in their products. Its EarthKind brand is the first bedding product to be certified as Zero Waste to Landfill.

## FOX'S BISCUITS

**T**he company's roots can be traced back to 1853 when Michael Spedding baked his first batch of brandy snaps and sold them to shops, traders and shows from his Batley bakery. When his son-in-law, Fred Ellis Fox, took over in 1897 he renamed it F E Fox & Co.

The Batley factory now bakes 6 billion biscuits a year that are munched worldwide. Some of the UK's most loved Fox's biscuits include crunch creams, crinkle crunch, Viennese and party rings for kids. There are eight bakeries spread across the UK employing 5,000 people.

For special occasions such as Christmas, Fox's do an indulgent



chocolate selection tin simply called Fabulously. The Fox's website features lots of recipes you can bake using their biscuits.

Fox's is now owned by Ferrero International SA, a multinational company with headquarters in Luxembourg.

## ADARE SEC

**A**dare SEC helps businesses to communicate with its customers as effectively as possible using everything from print to emails and text messages.

This can be quite a complex task when large companies have to deal with different customers in different ways with some wanting communications by letter while others are happy to receive emails and texts. Adare SEC are also experts at helping businesses to communicate with people who are vulnerable or have special needs such as sight loss. Adare SEC was established in 2006 at Clayton West with its roots traced back to the former Waddington Business Forms that was based on the



Adare SEC chief operations officer Tom Prestwich

same site.

It now employs around 400 people and also has sites in Redditch in Worcestershire and Nottingham. Between them they produce hundreds of millions of important

customer communications every year ranging from PINS for credit cards and bank statements to welcome packs for new customers joining businesses ranging from banks to insurance companies.

# University of Huddersfield – career journeys



**N**estled in the heart of West Yorkshire, the University of Huddersfield boasts an extensive network of connections with local employers. These connections serve as a gateway to a promising future for Huddersfield students. Through

partnerships with regional businesses, the university has created a vibrant ecosystem that nurtures both academic growth and career development. In this piece, we will explore how the university's strong affiliations with local employers have benefitted its students. These connections

present Huddersfield students with remarkable placement and graduate role opportunities within the region. These opportunities not only propel students towards successful careers but also serve as an incentive for staying local following graduation. Here is what some of their graduates had to share:

## HARRY SISWICK



**College:** Huddersfield New College  
**University Degree:** BA (Hons) Business & Human Resource Management

**Why did you decide to study at Huddersfield?**

I contemplated moving away for university but was swayed by Huddersfield's modern facilities and dedicated lecturers.

**Where did you do your placement?**

During my placement year at Thornton & Ross, a large and local pharmaceutical company, I worked as a HR placement student, gaining valuable corporate exposure.

These skills elevated my final-year performance, leading to a first-class degree.

**What were the benefits of doing your placement at a local company?**

Staying close to the university provided access to resources, allowing me to put theory into practice. Connecting with local companies simplified the recruitment process, as the university has direct contact with them. Also, working for a company that impacts the community has allowed me to give back to the area I was studying in.



## ELLIE HIRST

**College:** Greenhead College

**University Degree:**

LLB (Hons) Law

**Why did you decide to study at Huddersfield?**

I made the decision to study at a local university to stay close to my family and maintain my part-time job in Huddersfield. I explored several universities in West Yorkshire and discovered that the University of Huddersfield stood out as the best option in terms of course content and the robust connections

with local firms.

**What are the benefits of working for a local employer?**

I am familiar with the local area and community; it's an advantage in my line of work, as most of my clients are local. This enables me to conduct face-to-face meetings, adding a more personal touch to the job and making it more diverse. Furthermore, I can connect with other local businesses, contributing to the vibrant business community within Huddersfield.

## HOLLY HEATHCOTE

**College:** Barnsley Academy Sixth Form

**University Degree:**

BA (Hons) Business Management

**Why did you decide to study at Huddersfield?**

Studying at a local university while living in student accommodation provided me with the convenience of being able to visit home whenever I wanted. It allowed me to fully immerse myself in the university experience and create lasting friendships with people local to the area, many of whom I'm still friends with today!

**Where did you do your placement?**

PPG Architectural Coatings and my role was Commercial Support Management Trainee.

**What were the benefits of doing your placement at a local company?**

Staying local enabled me to stay at home throughout my placement year and establish vital connections within the industry. PPG provided me with valuable business experience, where I gained insights into the collaboration of all functional areas contributing to a thriving and successful business.

## JOSHUA FOSTER

**College:** Barnsley Academy Sixth Form

**University Degree:**

Business Management BA (Hons)

**Why did you decide to study at Huddersfield?**

I chose to study the Nova course at Huddersfield, as moving away for university never appealed to me.

**Where did you do your placement?**

My Placement at Cummins Turbo Technologies in Huddersfield involved overseeing the entire sales process. This provided me with valuable insights into supply chain operations in a practical setting.

**What were the benefits of doing your placement at a local company?**

Adapting to the work environment was seamless and the team were welcoming. Also, Cummins worked closely with the university and ensured I had a highly productive placement year, even despite the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Innovation spotlight

Our panel's choice showcasing some of the most innovative engineering companies in Kirklees.

## ACCU

**S**upplying precision engineering components to over 50% of the world's top 100 manufacturers.

Accu sells 500,000 precision components in over 125 countries, from tiny screws in children's prosthetic limbs to precision bolts within fusion reactors that promise unlimited clean energy. Accu supports global innovation across several industries, including manufacturing, electrical engineering and electronics, prosthesis, robotics and medical. It has spent years establishing a global supply chain and network to provide bespoke solutions to engineers across the world.

The company is making big strides to reduce its carbon impact with ambitions to become a net zero organisation by 2030. Innovations include new manufacturing processes, operating with digital, paper-free systems and introducing on-site energy saving protocols.

To accommodate expansion, Accu recently invested over £1million on a new

state-of-the-art head office and 45,000 sq ft distribution centre at the former Brooks Motors site in Brockholes. The

new premises will create up to 200 new jobs as it aims to grow its turnover to £40 million by 2026.



## HOLTEX INNOVATIONS GROUP



**F**inding solutions to impossible problems and bringing ideas to life.

Established in 2014, Holtex specialises in problem-solving engineering, boasting a highly experienced, multi-skilled team, all trained in-house across a wide range of machinery.

Its experts provide engineering design for both advanced machining strategies and machine tooling.

Working across a range of industries including automotive, oil and gas, medical, powertrain, aerospace, food and drink and agriculture, Holtex enables businesses to save money and improve carbon footprints through cost-effective solutions that reduce the need to invest in new machinery and equipment.

Innovation projects at Holtex include, developing its own carbon neutral manufacturing plant, introducing zero emissions transport supported by its own electropolishing, as well as developing algae photobioreactors and algal fertilisers, a CO2 fixation system and micro hydrogen fuel cells.

Holtex collaborates regularly with the School of Computing and Engineering at the University of Huddersfield and the 3M Buckley Innovation Centre.

## ACTIFORM LTD

### Pioneering bespoke modular buildings in a changing world.

With over 40 years' experience in the design, manufacture and construction of off-site engineered buildings, Actiform has forged a strong reputation and evolved as one of the largest privately owned manufacturers in its field in the UK. Since 1979, the company has been innovating through the creation of a wide range of flexible and bespoke solutions to meet building needs, with particular focus around the health, education and commercial sectors. Projects include modular community

diagnostic facilities, office cabins, wards and theatres, as well as clinical refurbishments and new buildings, created from its state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities based in Mirfield.

Reducing its carbon footprint has been a high priority in recent years, having invested in hybrid and electric vehicles, replacing all sodium lighting in its factory to LED, as well as switching all its gas heating with a wood burning heater fuelled by its timber offcuts. Actiform has a Collaborative Venture Fund (CVF) with University of Huddersfield and has recently worked

on projects with the School of Arts and Humanities and the Leeds City Region Supply Chain Programme.



## WAYLAND ADDITIVE

### Revolutionising metal AM processes using electron beam technology.

Boasting a combined 150+ years of industrial electron beam manufacturing expertise, Wayland Additive was born

from an established high precision engineering team in the semiconductor industry that discovered how electron beam technology could improve additive manufacturing (AM).

At the forefront of developing the most efficient and accurate AM metal processes, Wayland has been transferring the high value, mature technology from the semiconductor industry to the AM arena since 2015 to enhance application, material development and repeatability. Its revolutionary Calibur3 metal AM system features the NeuBeam metal AM process offering a significant advancement compared with traditional systems, paving the way for new possibilities and precise control in metal AM.

The Callibur3 can improve productivity with faster warm-up and shorter cool-down times by eliminating residual thermal stresses, simplified powder removal and reduced post-processing and energy consumption.

In 2022, it expanded its headquarters in Huddersfield, developing a dedicated production factory, as well as new premises specifically for research and development.

Wayland regularly collaborates with the School of Computing and Engineering at the University of Huddersfield.



## SENTINI MARINE

### Focusing on improving crew safety on board superyachts.

Operating since 2011, Sentini Marine was set up by a team with decades of commercial and yachting experience to provide bespoke technical operating manuals and familiarisation tools to both the commercial shipping world and private yachts. Based at Aspley Wharf in Huddersfield, the company's aim is to raise the safety culture on yachts by increasing the quality of information onboard and the methods by which it is communicated, to help reduce accidents and incidents and save time and money in delays and repairs.

Sentini Marine's innovations include an app that tests crews' knowledge of their specific vessel safety information and procedures and a virtual reality crew training module.

The company recently used Kirklees Innovation Vouchers to introduce a new app which allows the crew to browse, revise and take tests based on the vessel's safety and technical manuals as well as monitoring and capturing performance. The app not only tests crew knowledge but provides immediate access to data such as digital manuals and reduces the need to physically access multiple manuals.



## KIRKLEES TOP 100 – THE LIST

1

**MYERS**  
Group

Originally founded as Isaac Timmins Ltd in 1929, the Myers Group can trace its modern-day heritage back to 1959 when Readymix Huddersfield was incorporated. The Readymix operation has since expanded into a regional business with four strategically located manufacturing plants. Group companies also include Johnsons Wellfield, founded in 1854 and acquired by the Myers family in 1979. Johnsons Wellfield is Britain's leading supplier of natural hard Yorkstone and the only division of the Group trading on a national basis.

2



UKG are one of the largest direct to retail publishers of greeting cards and social expression products in the UK and one of the leading greeting card manufacturers. They are part of the American Greetings family, which is one of the largest greeting card publishers in the world.

3



With a base in Huddersfield, Continental Wine and Food Ltd was established in 1960 and is a leading wine and alcoholic drinks importer, producer, bottler, wine supplier and distributor, with worldwide product sourcing from Eire, Europe, South Americas and Australia. They offer an extensive product range of still & sparkling wines, fortified wine, ready to drinks and speciality mixer drinks, with a substantial bonded manufacturing and winery facility offering focus on quality, innovation & service.

4



Established in the UK in 2002, Dr Reddy's Laboratories is part of Dr Reddy's group, an integrated global pharmaceutical company committed to accelerating access to affordable medicines. The UK portfolio of prescription medicines spans across major therapeutic categories and a variety of forms are available.

5



Founded in 1883 as Pittsburgh Plate Glass by Captain John B. Ford and John Pitcairn in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Today, PPG is a global supplier of paints, coatings, optical products, and specialty materials. With a base in Birstall, PPG in the UK manufactures the market leading Johnstone's and Leyland paint brands which offer an extensive range of coatings and finishes for the DIY consumer and professional decorator. They are a global leader in paints, coatings and materials, operating in more than 70 countries. They work side by side with customers in the following industries: Construction, Consumer products, Industrial and transportation markets and aftermarkets.

6



For nearly two decades, Fintel (formerly known as SimplyBiz) has been the UK's leading support services business, powering thousands of intermediary businesses through its leading brands - SimplyBiz, Compliance First, SimplyBiz Mortgages, SIFA Professional, FIBA, APS Legal & Associates, Gateway Surveyors, the Consumer Credit Centre, and Signature. Fintel are committed to simplifying and improving the complex world of financial services and to creating a better outcome for everyone.

7

**Crossroads Truck and Bus Limited**

Crossroads Group Limited is the parent company of Crossroads Truck & Bus Ltd who have over 50 years' experience of providing transport solutions across 9 locations in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. They provide trucks, parts, advice and maintenance. Crossroads Group Limited is a part of Hartshorne Group Limited.

8



Mabey Hire are an award-winning temporary works specialist and have been at the forefront of their industry for 60 years, building a reputation for engineering and service excellence. Mabey Hire has a 70-strong national engineering team - who have delivered temporary works schemes for some of the most complex and largest construction and infrastructure projects in the UK offering a complete in-house solution from design, supply, installation and monitoring for planned, reactive and emergency projects and the UK's widest range of temporary works equipment for hire.

9

**AY & Y. PATEL  
(DEWSBURY)  
LIMITED**

Established in 1975, AY & Y. Patel (Dewsbury) currently operates a portfolio of petrol forecourts, convenience stores and automotive centres throughout United Kingdom and have recently completed a £2,000,000 refurbishment across two of their West Yorkshire branches.

10



Founded in 1920, Reliance RG (trading as Reliance Precision) provides custom, high reliability, precision instrumentation to customers from global markets. Engineering capabilities include design, development, prototyping, manufacturing, assembly and test, with a catalogue of precision motion control components and electromechanical assemblies.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

11



David Brown Santasalo

Founded in 1860 as a pattern manufacturing company by 1873 David Brown had begun to concentrate on gear systems and by 1898 was specialising in machine-cut gears. The company moved in 1902 to Park Works at Huddersfield, where they are based today. In 2016, David Brown and Santasalo joined forces to become one of the world's leading mechanical power transmission brands bringing together almost three centuries of combined gear engineering leadership and substantial geographic coverage. Located in 27 global locations with over 1,100 employees, a strong track record for reliable performance coupled with a rich brand heritage and proven application experience.

12



Located in the heart of Yorkshire's textile industry, WooltexUK have been designers and manufacturers of textile fabrics since 1996. Wooltex fabrics are used in office seating, public buildings and concert halls. Sales are exported for distribution within the EU and beyond. Wooltex operates its own Warping, Weaving, Mending and Final Inspection with a state-of-the-art Dyeing and Finishing facility and the ability to manufacture its own yarns using novel and advanced production techniques. In 2022, expansion plans include the introduction of their own worsted yarn spinning facility.

13



TOG24

TOG24 was founded by Donald Ward in West Yorkshire in 1958. Based in the Spen Valley town of Heckmondwike, initially produced footwear, branched into sports bags and football kits in the 70's before finally landing on waterproofs and fleeces. As the brand grew in popularity skiwear and casual clothing were added and they began to produce overseas. TOG24 now sells from over 60 outlets across Britain and Ireland.

14



Magma Ceramics & Catalysts is a manufacturer and supplier of a wide range of refractory, ceramic and catalyst materials and technology throughout the world. Since the company's inception in February 2010, following the management buyout of the former Dyson Group business, Dyson Precision Ceramics, they have enjoyed continual and significant growth from 24 employees in 2010 to over 200 at present. They have three divisions, notably 'Magma Ceramics', 'Magma Catalysts' and 'Magma Combustion' and operate worldwide from their facilities in the UK and Vietnam. Magma currently operate manufacturing plants in Wallasey, Wirral (UK), Bolton, Greater Manchester (UK), Dewsbury, West Yorkshire (UK Head Office) and Vietnam.

15



Founded in 1997, Orean is an award-winning private label cosmetic manufacturing company operating in the UK and USA. They specialise in producing high-end skin and hair care products and over the years have developed an award-winning reputation for quality, service and speed.

16



For more than 40 years Aflex Hose has been inventing, developing and manufacturing the widest, most technically advanced range of PTFE lined flexible hose products in the world. More than 10 million cars, ATVs, trucks and motorbikes on the roads today include one or more Aflex PTFE hoses.

16



Westex were founded back in 1977 as 'ST Carpets' in the sheep farming and textile heartland of West Yorkshire in the UK. A private company, Westex Carpets was originally the concept of a master dyer who wanted to offer a wider range of colour and quality within carpet manufacture. Today, they continue to draw on and develop that legacy with three dedicated manufacturing hubs.

18



Starting in 1968 in the small West Yorkshire mill town of Dewsbury, High Seat Holdings Limited (trading as HSL Chairs) have been handcrafting beautiful chairs, sofas and beds right here in West Yorkshire for over 50 years.

19



Hartford Holdings is the parent company of several different brands predominantly focusing on the bathroom industry including Hartford Bathrooms, Trojan Plastics, Thomas Crapper and Company and Mantalea Bathroom Company.

20



A family run firm, spanning almost 3 generations, Mac's Transport (Northern) Limited (trading as Mac's Trucks) success is due to an amalgamation of best practice, innovation and professionalism. It is a one-stopshop for customers, dealing with buying, building and aftersales care in-house - their primary business activity is the production and manufacture of HGV vehicles.

# KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

21

## BROOKFIELD PROPERTY (HOLDINGS) LTD

Brookfield Property (Holdings) is a retailer of fuel and other household goods with convenience stores including Subway outlets, bakeries and valeting. The group operates a portfolio of sites in the north of England. As part of its growth strategy, it seeks to offer quality products with excellent service at all its sites. To achieve this the group has partnered up with major brands such as BP, Shell, Nisa, and Coop for the convenience stores.

22



The CoGri Group is a consortium of floor solution specialists and has over 31 year's global experience in the design, construction, testing, surveying and upgrading of industrial concrete floors. The Group has over 200 employees worldwide across 23 companies with offices in 14 countries. They offer services throughout Europe, North and South America, Oceania, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

23



The Howarth family started out in the food industry in 1881. The business delivers wholesale catering supplies direct to numerous businesses including licensed trade and restaurants, coffee shops and sandwich bars, schools and universities and establishments in the care industry across the north.

24



Cutwel have been servicing the UK & Irish engineering industry for over 25 years. Established in 1996 as a small family run company, Cutwel has grown to become one of the largest independent engineering tooling suppliers in the United Kingdom, with a turnover of £20m, serving over 10,000 precision engineering companies nationwide.

25



Incorporated in 1955, National Floorcoverings produces a wide variety of products from fibre bonded carpets for the education market, tufted carpet and tiles for the commercial sector to specialised indoor and outdoor sports surfaces, the National Floorcoverings group has expertise in all aspects of flooring.

26



Founded in 1989, Caterers Choice is a leading importer and trader of canned goods and ambient products for the UK foodservice, manufacturing and retail sectors. Their head office, Parkdale House, which includes their technical and test kitchen facility, is in Huddersfield.

27

## Ramsdens Solicitors

Established in Huddersfield in 1870, with its principal office in Edgerton and twelve branch offices in Bradford, Dewsbury, Elland, Huddersfield, Halifax, Holmfirth, Leeds, Milnsbridge, Mirfield, Slaithwaite, Wakefield and York, Ramsdens is perfectly placed to build on its 150 year's heritage in the area. With 260 team members, working in 12 different practice areas, across 14 offices and solicitors and support staff fluent in 7 languages, Ramsdens offers the full spectrum of legal services to organisations and to the individual.

28

## CALDER GROUP (DEWSBURY) LIMITED

Calder Group (Dewsbury) Limited is the parent company of different brands including Anchor Carpets, Calder Carpets, Calder Properties and Calder Textiles.

29



Established in 2002, Highgrove is one of the UK's fastest growing bed brands and currently produce approx. 5000 beds a week from their new manufacturing plant in Liversedge, West Yorkshire - one of the biggest and most modern in Europe. Highgrove are a privately owned, family business.

30



Formed in 1969, NewSmith Stainless Limited has remained a family-owned business, developing its identity as one of the world's leading manufacturers of an extensive and versatile range of industrial washing, drying, handling, conveying and auxiliary equipment.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

31

**Locala**  
Health & Wellbeing

Locala was created in 2011 to take on the NHS community healthcare services previously provided as part of Kirklees Primary Care Trust. There was an ambition and determination to be flexible and innovative. Locala Health & Wellbeing is a not-for-profit community healthcare provider offering a variety of NHS services to care for and support people of all ages. Locala employs around 1500 people who are all committed to delivering the very best services to patients.

32

**STADA**  
Thornton & Ross  
STADA GROUP

Based in Linthwaite, Huddersfield, Thornton & Ross has been caring for its customers since 1922. Thornton & Ross is one of the UK's fastest-growing, leading producers of household pharmaceutical products, and own some of the country's most loved brands such as Covonia®, Hedrin®, Cetaben® as well as the leading disinfectant Zoflora®. It is a trusted and reliable provider of prescription products, including emollients bone health products and generics, to the NHS with almost 100 years' heritage. Thornton & Ross is part of the STADA group. STADA Arzneimittel AG is a publicly-listed company with headquarters in Bad Vilbel, Germany. Worldwide, STADA Arzneimittel AG sells its products in approximately 120 countries.

33

**TALK**  
DIRECT

Founded in 2006, Talk Direct (Leeds) Ltd is an O2 Franchise operating a Call Centre and 16 successful stores across Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and the North East of England. Now turning over c£25m with c200 FTE's across various portfolios of businesses.

34



ZF CV Distribution UK provide clean, safe, intelligent: sustainable solutions for commercial vehicles in logistics and public transport. With decades of experience in transmission, braking and steering technology, ZF know how important road safety and driver comfort is in the industry.

35



**Standard  
Wool**

Standard Wool UK (Holdings) Limited is the parent company of Standard Wool (UK) which is a global group of companies committed to sourcing, processing and supplying superior quality wool and its by-products, with headquarters in Dewsbury.

36

**N.L.**  
VAN TRUCK & CAR HIRE

NL originally dates to 1985 when Nigel Lella first purchased the Rouse Mill Lane site in Batley, West Yorkshire. NL Commercials is a family-owned vehicle rental company, supplying vehicle hire solutions for over 35 years. NL is now the largest Independent rental company in the North of England, supplying over 2500 vehicles Nationally.

37

**FMG**  
THINKING AHEAD

FMG was established in 1986 in Huddersfield and remains one of the largest private employers in the town. Over the last 30 years FMG have experienced substantial growth in core Incident Management markets. Today, FMG is one of the UK's only Incident Management and Roadside Services Specialists committed to reducing the frequency and impact of incidents. They deliver business-critical, 24-hour vehicle and driver support to Blue Chip customers, Leasing Providers, Motor Insurers, Highways England and several Police Forces.

38

**JAY-BE**  
Sleep Smart

Founded in Yorkshire, Stevro (Holdings) Limited's (trading as Jay-Be) heritage can be traced back to the early days of the industrial revolution. Born out of a passion for comfort innovation and manufacturing, they have evolved throughout generations to become well-known for creating industry leading sleep products which are functional, innovative and environmentally conscious.

38

**FIRTH**  
doors and hardware

Ian Firth Hardware Ltd was established in 1982. In 1988 the company branched out into Patio Doors, Garage Doors and Internal Doors, offering a supply and fit service for some products. By 1995 the company started selling Composite Doors, steel and GRP faced, and invested in cutting machinery to be able to customise the doors to meet the designs the customers wanted. By 2007 turnover had hit over £12m with its own fleet of vehicles delivering across the country every week.

40

**Triton**  
Construction

Founded in 2005, Triton Construction Limited is a general contractor providing construction services across the north of England for over 12 years. With the head office located in Liversedge, West Yorkshire and with a north west regional office in Warrington it is able to cover projects in Yorkshire, the north east, Derbyshire and the north west.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 – THE LIST

41

**EASTWOOD GROUP  
(HUDDERSFIELD)  
LIMITED**

Eastwood Group (Huddersfield) Limited operates a number of companies across the insurance and financial management industries, in addition to companies supplying cooker hoods, including Westin and Eastwood Financial.

42



PCSpecialist are Europe's leading system integrator, specialising in build to order PCs, Laptops, AIOs and Servers. They focus on building high-performance systems for enthusiasts, gamers & professionals. Established in 2003 in the United Kingdom, they speak 10 languages and supply computers to over 30 countries across Europe. They have registered branches in France, Italy and Spain, a subsidiary in Germany and are registered for VAT in 13 countries.

43



Incorporated in 1945, Drake Extrusion Ltd. manufactures coloured polypropylene fibres. The Company provides its products for such uses as floor coverings, industrial & filtration, home furnishings, concrete, and paper & soil reinforcement. Drake Extrusion operates in Bradford and Huddersfield. With a focus on researching new products and technologies, IFG's mission is not only to continually enhance the performance characteristics of its fibres, but to bring forward a new era of more environmental and sustainable performance fibre solutions.

44



Owens Corning Veil UK was founded in 1951, and manufactures a range of insulation, roofing and fiberglass composite materials. Leveraging the talents of 19,000 employees in 33 countries, Owens Corning provides innovative products, manufacturing technologies, and sustainable solutions.

44



Chemfix was created in 1991 as the business venture of a Kent-based entrepreneur. Allied with a successful Yorkshire based manufacturer of chemical resins, Chemfix entered the new and growing Industry of Chemical Anchoring. Chemfix is a company that specialises in the development and manufacture of Chemical Anchoring, repair solutions and anchoring products for the industrial, construction, and DIY sectors. Chemfix manufactures for many global brands and household names.

46



In February 2018, Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust decided to set up a wholly owned subsidiary to manage its estates, facilities, medical engineering and procurement functions. The subsidiary is called Calderdale and Huddersfield Solutions Ltd (CHS) and currently employs around 450 colleagues to help deliver a comprehensive service.

47

**Pacific**

Stafford Mills Holdings Limited (trading as Pacific Lifestyle) is business-to-business retailer that sells interior decoration and indoor furnishing items to the trade and has been based in Milnsbridge for over 50 years.

48

**PAXMAN<sup>o</sup>**  
PIONEERS IN SCALP COOLING

The family story of Paxman Coolers began in the 1950s when Eric Paxman, the father of the company's current chairman Glenn, invented the beer cooling system for breweries. For the next 30 years, the family was hugely successful in developing award-winning cooling products and systems. The Paxman Scalp Cooling System, also known as the 'cold cap', was designed using the family's refrigeration expertise when Glenn Paxman's wife began losing her hair whilst receiving chemotherapy for breast cancer. Glenn, realizing how traumatic the subsequent hair loss was, developed a system that worked. After years of research and development, Glenn and his brother Neil built the first prototype of the Paxman Scalp Cooling System that was installed at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary in 1997.

49

**mamas  
& papas<sup>®</sup>**

Established in 1981, Mamas & Papas have been helping parents grow their families for over 40 years. From award-winning baby products to expert help and advice, everything they do is designed to make life a little easier for real parents, living real lives.

50

**LESJÖFORS**

Lesjöfors produce an extensive range of springs for the European Car and Light Commercial Vehicle market, offering high-quality products, professional service, and excellent availability. Lesjöfors have spent over 160 years manufacturing springs, and today produce the world's largest range of coil springs for the automotive aftermarket. They are a European market leader in the suspension coil spring free aftermarket.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

51

principle 

Founded in 1987, Tandem 1987 also known as Principle Group is an international brand implementation company headquartered in Huddersfield, UK, with 23 offices in 70+ countries around the world. Clients span many sectors including Automotive, Corporate & Industrial, Financial Services, Health & Wellness, Hospitality & Leisure, Retail and Telecommunications & Media.

52

Polyseam®

Polyseam has been independently manufacturing first class brands for the majority of the world's leading suppliers since 1993. Specialising in the development of professional sealants, adhesives, fillers and firestopping products for almost any substrate or application, they use their trade expertise to provide innovative products for the industry. Their comprehensive manufacturing experience and capabilities, matched with dedicated research and development investment, has positioned their products alongside other global market leaders.

53

majorrecruitment 

Founded in 1992 in Morley, Leeds, Major Recruitment Limited provide jobs for people and consultancy solutions across multiple sectors using teams of specialist recruiters who know your sector inside out. Their business is split up into divisions, each with their own practices, procedures and approach - these are designed for the industry they serve. They are independently owned and have grown organically, meaning each location is integrated into its local region. This allows them to provide expertise in each specific market and geographical location.

53

FOREGALÉ  
ROOFING & REINFORCEMENT SPECIALISTS

Established in 1981, Foregale are a roofing and reinforcements specialist that provide both the public and construction industry with a first-class service, where quality and express delivery are their aims.

55

—H—  
JOHN HORSFALL  
CREATIVITY IN FLIGHT

Established in 1863, John Horsfall head office is based in the heart of the historical textile landscape of West Yorkshire with an in-house design studio, warehouse and sampling facility. They also have an office in Hangzhou in China, where their dedicated team work alongside our partner factories ensuring the fabric manufacturing process and quality control through all stages. The familyrun business which started out as fabric manufacturers, is now managed by Managing Director Peter Horsfall Benson. Peter is the fifth generation of the Horsfall family to run the company.

55

FERNO®

Founded in 1971, Ferno (UK) Limited have created a global range of products unrivalled in quality and design and is a world leading innovator, manufacturer and supplier of medical equipment to Emergency Medical Services, Fire & Rescue Services, Hospitals, Funeral & Mortuary, Industrial, Aviation, Military sectors and other major industries. The company employs over 50 staff at its facility in Cleckheaton and supplies its products into the UK, Ireland and Export through the Ferno Distributor network.

57

athena

Founded in 2010, Athena (UK) Limited is a groundwork and civil engineering contractor providing a diverse range of construction services.

58

XL  
Joinery

XL Joinery Limited have provided quality doors and associated joinery, for over 20 years, to the most prestigious names in the DIY sector and to Builders Merchants, Timber Merchants and Independent Door Retailers across the UK. They are focused on innovation and our range of Hardwood, Oak & Pine Doors offers its customers the most comprehensive range of wooden doors available in the UK.

58

RHF  
RACKHAM  
HOUSEFLOORS

Founded in 1979 by Charles Rackham and acquired by Paul Moore in 1991, Rackham Housefloors Ltd has supplied 175mm pre-stressed concrete floor beams to the building industry for more than 30 years. Rackhams moved into its Head Office building in Mill Street East, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire in 1990 where it remains to this day. The company manufactures and delivers from three production plants in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, Grantham, Lincolnshire and Featherstone, West Yorkshire.

58

Videcon

Trading successfully since 1995, Videcon is a leading tradeonly distributor of security products and services. Videcon's expertise encompasses all aspects of security distribution from products to training and after-care service.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 – THE LIST

61



Established in 1990, Status International (UK) Limited, ("Status"), is an independent supplier of lighting and electrical accessories. Status is run by father and son, Peter and Nicholas McVeigh, who between them have over 80 year's combined experience in the lighting industry. Today, Status boasts a customer base across the UK and Europe including major national retailers, wholesalers, independent retailers and electrical wholesalers. In 2016, Status celebrated its 25th anniversary. Status is located at its head office in Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire, with a warehouse, distribution centre, in house design studio and laboratory. In 2014, Status were part of an elite group of national companies that featured on the fastest growing profit stars list compiled by the Sunday Times BDO Profit Track 100.

62

## Z. Hinchliffe &amp; Sons

Spinners of Quality Yarn for Over 200 Years, Harold Hinchliffe Limited was founded in 1766 as a trading company and in 1850, they built their company headquarters in the rural, picturesque Yorkshire village of Denby Dale, and it remains in the very same place to this day.

63



Founded in June 2021, Fuels Transport & Logistics is a freight transport business involving the domestic transportation of bulk liquids in the petroleum industry.

64



Arrow Self Drive, an independent family run business which began in Huddersfield in 1988, is the largest independently owned car, van, minibus and truck rental company in Yorkshire with over 2,000 vehicles on fleet. They offer self-drive hire from one day up to five years.

65



Future Forwarding is a privately held freight forwarder in business since 1977. Future Forwarding delivers global sea freight services for customers through a variety of carriers.

66



Established in 1946 as an independent family run business, HOYER is a global leader in providing specialist bulk logistics for the chemical, petroleum, food and gas industries. Their UK operation commenced in 1974 and now employs 1,300 people throughout the country and globally they employ over 6,000 people in over 115 countries, turning over €1.2bn.

67



Established in 1954, by Jack Mosley. Jack was a local weaver who began by making fabric for bus seats and traditional hearth rugs that were woven from locally sourced wool and acrylic and cotton from Lancashire. Three generations later they are still manufacturing at their two sites in Scissett, Huddersfield.

67



Established in 2003 Specialist Glass Products Ltd design and supply flat, curved, annealed, toughened, laminated and double-glazed glass to companies of all sizes.

69



Established in 1986, ARROW is the leading independent UK based manufacturer, supplier and installer of specialist doors and services for industrial, retail and commercial applications.

70



Established in 1910, W.T. Johnson & Sons is one of the world's leading textile dyeing and finishing companies. The business creates high-quality finished on an ever-increasing range of fabrics, from the finest gentlemen's worsted suiting to specialised safety clothing and upholstery.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

71



Dual Seal Glass Limited started business in 1995 when father and son David and Nigel Meredith decided to create a Huddersfield based company strategically developed to supply a local market with insulating glass units incorporating a unique Low E soft coat product newly available to the industry at this time. This decision immediately placed Dual Seal Glass as a market leader in product choice which was linked with an ethos of quality and service that has carried through to the present day.

72



Fired Up was established in Huddersfield in 1998 as a small manufacturer of fires and fireplaces. Over the past 18 years they have grown organically and through acquisition to be a global employer, operating businesses in the UK, USA, Hong Kong and China. They operate three product brands; Adam, Aurora and Corby and across two industries; domestic heating and international hospitality and have factories in both China and the UK.

73

### HARGREAVES GROUP (GB) LIMITED

Hargreaves Group (GB) Limited operates a number of companies in the industrial sector, supplying a range of aggregates, building materials, and associated products, as well as providing architectural and recycling services.

74

### MRC Global

A worldwide organisation, based in America and with a site in Cleckheaton, MRC Global was established in 1921. MRC Transmark aim to be the world's leading provider of PVF products and solutions to the energy and industrial markets. MRC Global provides a broad range of valves that are available in a wide variety of materials from today's leading valve manufacturers to fully meet even the most complex and unique requirements.

75

### INTERIORS<sup>UK</sup>

IUKH NLT Limited is the ultimate parent company of Interiors UK which is a nationwide commercial shopfitting company with a portfolio of high street clients in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors.

76



Hystat was established in Huddersfield in 1976 to service the market in heavy duty Hydraulic Cylinders, Accumulators, Rotary Actuators, Rotary Distributors and Pressure Vessels. In 1982 the company moved to its current site at Spa Fields Industrial Estate, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield. The premises have been extended three times and is now over ten times larger than the original building within excess of 50,000 sq ft of production facilities at its disposal to supply industries including: Steel & Aluminium Production, Marine, Offshore, Subsea, Shipboard, Industrial, Power Generation, Minerals & Mining, Nuclear, and Railway.

77



Interior Good Direct Limited have been trading exclusively online since 2003. Since their launch they have grown from a handful of people to one of the UK's largest online retailers of high quality home furnishings. They supply all kinds of window dressings, including: Wooden Blinds, Roller Blinds, Vertical Blinds, Curtain Poles, Ready-made and Made to Measure Curtains, Cushions, Roman Blinds, Plantation Shutters and Pleated Blinds and manufacture nearly everything in their facility in Grange Moor, Yorkshire.

78



Extract Technology was founded in 1981 and are a leading worldwide supplier of containment and aseptic systems for the pharmaceutical, healthcare, biotech and chemical markets. Even within the early years the business established a prestigious international client portfolio based on a reputation for excellence. Over the following years they have been at the forefront of many significant developments and have striven to maintain their position as one of the leading containment and aseptic manufacturers in the world.

79

### G - TUFT LIMITED

G-Tuft Limited is a manufacturer of carpets and rugs based in Dewsbury.

79

### James Robinson Speciality Ingredients

James Robinson Group Ltd is the parent company of James Robinson Speciality Ingredients, a company that research, develop & manufacture ingredients for use in cosmetics and other highly specialised industries.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 – THE LIST

81

## THOMAS OWEN HOUSE

specialist nursing & residential care

Thomas Owen House in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, was bought by Kevin and Ann Martin in 1988 and was opened as a nursing home for older people with mental health needs in 1989. It is a specialist nursing care home providing high quality, continuing care for people who have long term mental health problems.

81

## SPEED PETROLEUM (UK) LIMITED

Founded in May 2007, Speed Petroleum (UK) is a retailer of fuel and ancillary products that operates retail stations with convenience stores including Subway outlets and valeting.

83



Formed in 1935, Forteq - then known as Mikron - traded as precision engineers before starting plastic injection moulding in the 1980s and selling the engineering side of the business. In 1990, the company moved from Albany Road to its present location and in 2005, rebranded to its current name. An integral part of the automotive, consumer electronics and pharmaceutical industry worldwide, Forteq provides design, development, manufacturing, assembly and packaging services for custom medical and drug delivery solutions, high precision transmission systems and precision plastic components.

84



Ernest Brook made his first motor in Huddersfield, UK in 1904 forming Brook Motors, whilst Colonel Crompton had formed R.E.B. Crompton & Co in 1878. The two organisations came together in the 1970s to form the company that is now recognised the world over as Brook Crompton. Brook Crompton is a leading provider of energy efficient electric motors, known for delivering quality and innovation for over a century. Driven by technology and innovation, Brook Crompton has a comprehensive range of low, medium and high voltage motors for safe and hazardous duty designed to provide cost effective, energy-saving solutions across a range of industrial processes. Their drives packages can provide assured efficiency and reliability in a use-friendly variable speed drive system.

84



The story of Hultafors started in 1883 when a young engineer, Karl-Hilmer Johansson Kollén, invented a measuring device that would facilitate Sweden's conversion to the metric system. Hultafors is a leading international brand within state-of-the-art hand tools designed for construction and industry. It all started more than 130 years ago with the innovation of the folding rule. Today they offer a wide selection of reliable hand tools for measuring & marking, chopping & striking, knives, and pry & wrecking bars.

86



Based in Dewsbury, Craig's Motorcycles is a family-run motorcycle dealership with over forty years' experience, established as the UK's largest off-road showroom, with over 150 bikes on display.

87



Founded in 1909 in Denmark, Hansen Group are Northern Europe's leading independent fenestration specialist and are the market leader in the design, supply, and installation of building products. They have design, project management, and manufacturing operations in 17 locations across Europe, and can supply products and services anywhere in the world. By working closely with architects, developers, and main contractors they develop unique, cost-effective, and sustainable solutions.

88



Established in 1998, Dura Beds are one of the largest bed manufacturing companies employing over 165 people located in the heart of the bed manufacturing industry in West Yorkshire. Since inception they have grown quickly and are now the second largest independent manufacturer of beds and mattresses in the UK making over 4,500 mattresses and 2500 divan beds per week. As well as serving the UK market they have recently started exporting to Spain, Portugal, and Denmark.

88



Allsops is a precision sheet metal design and engineering company, established over 60 years ago and based in Honley.

88



**richard alan engineering**  
A RICHARD ALAN GROUP COMPANY

Established in 1970, Richard Alan Engineering is a leading force in the design, manufacture, installation and maintenance of custom storage tanks, silos, pressure vessels, water and waste water treatment solutions. A full end-to-end, in-house service that includes bespoke structural steelwork and process pipework design and installation.

## KIRKLEES TOP 100 - THE LIST

91



Martech UK Ltd has been designing, manufacturing and supplying high quality luminaires to OEMs since 1996. From humble beginnings, their portfolio of clients has grown to include most of the biggest names in the lighting industry, with contract branding as their speciality.

92



The Hennessy Partnership operates residential care homes to support individuals over the age of 18 with a varied range of needs. It specialises in complex behaviours and have an in-house therapy team who work closely alongside.

93



The Flexitallic brand can trace its history to mid-1800s England. The company manufactured gaskets from the very beginning. In the early 1900s, Flexitallic moved to the United States, placing its headquarters in Camden, New Jersey. Flexitallic is the market leader in the manufacture and supply of static sealing solutions.

94



Brisant Secure Ltd supplies top performance, premium quality security hardware to locksmiths and the glazing market. Brisant's range is innovative and takes security to a different level, staying a few steps ahead of the burglars.

95



Leading in Geosynthetics

Formed in 1988 and based in Meltham, in the heart of the West Yorkshire Pennines, ABG has developed a reputation for developing quality geosynthetics, geotextiles, geocell and geogrid solutions and delivering outstanding customer service. ABG technical support is backed up by their team of in-house Chartered Civil Engineers. Their service covers full design provision, design validation, feasibility studies, and advice on meeting regulatory requirements.

96



Oakland Glass Ltd were established in 1986, in Dewsbury, in the very heart of West Yorkshire. Oakland Glass Ltd are the premier manufacturer of Double & Triple glazed insulated glass units, Oaksoft™ Energy Saver, Oaktough™ toughened safety glass, Oaksafe™ laminated, Oakspecials™ Decorative & Bespoke glass and the home of Super Spacer® Warm Edge technology.

97



Established in 1973, Spectrum Yarns Ltd is a family run worsted spinning textile mill based in Slaithwaite, West Yorkshire, manufacturing and supplying yarns worldwide, for weaving, machine knitting, hand knitting & upholstery. Spectrum Yarns manufacture yarn for many end users and also manufacture their own knitwear brands Glenbrae and Slaith alongside a hand knitting brand, Stylecraft.

98



Brothers Tom and Howard started Furniture Choice in 2005 on a simple idea that stylish, quality furniture should be available for all. Changing their name to Furniture and Choice in 2020, their new name reflected their purpose to make it easy for customers to transform their homes.

99



For over a century the Shaw name has been associated with the manufacture of timber products in the Colne Valley, on the outskirts of Huddersfield. Shaw Timber, a wholly owned family business, is part of a group of companies founded in the early 1970's by brothers Michael and Stephen Shaw.

100



Established in 1902 by Fred Lawton, this privately owned family business has seen many changes throughout the century. Originally based in Huddersfield, the company was founded at Lockwood Mills and for many years thereafter at Firth Street Mills. Today the factory is located at Ravens Ing Mills in Dewsbury. This site accommodates a wide range of yarn producing activities to provide the carpet industry with quality yarn products. It houses state of the art showrooms and colour matching facilities.

# The Kirklees Top 100 2023

## HOW THE LIST WAS COMPILED

### Background

**T**he Kirklees Top 100 was compiled using as its source the FAME BVD database that contains a variety of information on more than 11 million companies in the UK and Ireland. The information in the database includes financial data, information on directors, and company structure including shareholders, subsidiaries and branches, and industry descriptions and SIC codes; much of the information derives from accounts and documents filed at Companies House (in the UK). The FAME BVD database is the only source used for the listing.

Strict parameters were used to derive the set of companies from which the Top 100 were ultimately drawn. The first parameter concerned the geographical location of companies in the Kirklees Top

100. The boundary was determined strictly by Kirklees postcode. Thus, we selected from the FAME BVD database all active companies with a registered office address within the Kirklees region defined as having a Kirklees postcode. Huddersfield Business School researchers downloaded the relevant data on July 3rd 2023 and any data available in the FAME BVD database after this date was not included in this particular edition of the Top 100 list. This year, in order to ensure a Kirklees focus, we added a further check: any company whose website presents as its only contact an address outside of Kirklees was removed even though their registered office was recorded in FAME as in Kirklees. This affected only a very small number of companies.

## ECONOMIC CONTEXT

**C**ompanies continue to face external challenges. While the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic are a thing of the past, the lingering impact of the pandemic, as well as Brexit, continue to challenge businesses. More recently there are new challenges to add to the old ones: the war in Ukraine, the impact on energy and grain, and consequent inflationary pressures. In terms of this list, it should be remembered that each company's data is a specific snapshot (indicated by the date in the "Accounts Date" column) and so the extent of the impact of precise external factors on businesses in this list will vary

by company. Companies which were thriving in the pandemic such as providers of online shopping, computers, and health-related products are now seeing more mixed fortunes; petrol, garage and vehicle services have seen a boost in position, pharmaceuticals are still performing well, and these sit alongside an array of business areas such as card publishing, financial services, purveying of food and drink, paint production and civil and precision engineering – and these are just in the Top 10! Kirklees continues to have a vibrant and diverse business economy with a wide range of services and manufacturers.



Professor Jill Johnes, Director of External Engagement, Huddersfield Business School

## METHODOLOGY

**T**he Kirklees Top 100 uses the same methodological approach as in our previous editions. The ranking is derived from the following indicators: staff head count (i.e. number of employees); turnover; growth in turnover between the latest and previous years; profit before tax; and shareholders' funds. Each of these indicators is ranked (best- to lowest-performing), and then these rankings are summed. The final position is determined by ranking the sum of ranks. In effect, each of the five metrics carries equal weight in determining the final ranking. The period over which the ranking applies is determined by the latest information held in FAME BVD and filed by each company in the Kirklees list. Any subsidiaries of larger companies included in the list were removed allowing us to focus on ultimate ownership, so long (of course) as the registered office was in the defined Kirklees area. Companies with turnover less than £1000 or with non-numeric data were removed from the data set. No businesses were offered the option of being included (or not).

## Limitations

**T**his list does not claim to indicate each business's economic importance to the Kirklees geographical area. It is based on five specific metrics which are deemed to be indicators of success. All metrics contribute equally to the final ranking. The list can therefore be seen as a means of showcasing and celebrating business activity in the Kirklees region. Unfortunately, not all companies' complete set of data are included in FAME BVD, and so businesses which might expect to be in the list are not for that reason. Kirklees also hosts important businesses which do not have a registered primary office in the region. These businesses, along with major public sector organisations, are showcased separately in this publication and are not in any ranked order.

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# KIRKLEES TOP 100

COMPANIES 2023/24

3M BUCKLEY  
INNOVATION  
CENTRE

University of  
HUDDERSFIELD  
Inspiring global professionals

 **Business  
Kirklees**



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|

[KIRKLEESTOP100@HUD.AC.UK](mailto:KIRKLEESTOP100@HUD.AC.UK)