

Leeds Manufacturing

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£700,000 Investment at Leeds Manufacturing Plant



Agfa UK's Leeds plant at Seacroft has seen an investment of £700,000 in new manufacturing equipment and is working round the clock to meet growing worldwide demand for its latest innovation in printing plate technology.

The company has now developed a "next generation" printing technology with environmental and energy saving benefits.

Site manager Graham Cooper describes it as a massive step forward for printers and the environment: "It makes for reliable hassle-free plate making for the printer with much lower impact on the environment than conventional chemically developed CTP plates."

Developed by Agfa with initial production in Germany, the introduction of the new products required over £300,000 investment to modify the two Seacroft production lines and a further £400,000 sum in high definition scanning technology to enhance quality checking during the production process.

These projects were handled by in-house Agfa engineers with the installation contracts handed to Dewsbury-based Chem Resist and Leeds Based H&C Moore.



media relations and profile

The semi-finished plates travel from Leeds to Agfa France for completion and the two plants co-operate closely on production schedules.

Graham Cooper adds: "We have over 90 highly productive staff here in Leeds, making a significant proportion of the group's and therefore the world's litho plates. By continuing to manage best practices at all times, we plan to continue contributing significantly to global growth."

Continued investment in Agfa's Leeds plant is good news for the city, the largest centre for print and publishing outside London.

Paul Stephens, Leeds City Council's chief economic services officer, said: "Businesses will face increasing pressure over the next few years to minimise the environmental impact of their activities. But, as the experience of Agfa's Leeds plant demonstrates, there are major opportunities to be had for companies that respond to these challenges proactively, with innovative and forward-thinking solutions."

Agfa Graphics employs 4,700 people worldwide and has a turnover of 1.35bn Euros.

Ends

Photography:

LCC2 2.jpeg Production operator Steve Holmes checks rolls of aluminium prior to processing at Agfa's Seacroft plant

Further information: Appeal PR: 01423-569999