

Stockley's Sweets

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Stockley's Completes £200,000 Move to New Factory



Lancashire-based Stockley's Sweets has expanded its manufacturing and packing facility after investing £200,000 into the 20,000 sq ft Mitre House on Shadsworth Business Park in Blackburn.

Relocating from two previous sites at Oswaldtwistle Mills and Hutton Street, Blackburn, the historic sweet manufacturer has now fully transferred its entire operations to the new premises, consolidating all of its manufacturing and packing processes to one site.

The building has undergone an extensive programme of infrastructure installation and refurbishment to make it fit for purpose, allowing Stockley's to increase its operational efficiency and manufacturing capacity as it concentrates on its expansion plans.

The 90-year-old confectionery business was saved from administration in October last year by Leeds-based wholesaler, Morris & Son. Securing the jobs of all 38 staff, the acquisition



media relations and profile

allowed Stockley's to strengthen its supply chain and expand the range of confectionery products on offer.

Andy Needham, chairman at Stockley's and managing director of Morris & Son said: "The new factory has allowed us to streamline our operations, reduce transportation and duplicated costs whilst providing us with the breathing space we need as we look to future growth.

"It's a significant move for the business which will vastly improve our efficiency going forward, but also reflects the business's strong performance over recent months."

Kath Lawson, sales director at Stockley's added: "Retro sweets are certainly back in fashion and as a result, we are experiencing a renewed appetite for this kind of confectionery. Over the last two years, there has been a sizeable increase in demand for traditional sweets, with orders for the old favourites, including sherbet lemon, rhubarb & custard, humbugs and fudges, growing considerably.

"Stockley's have been manufacturing around 12 tonnes of sweets per week but now, to ensure we're in a position to fulfil the volume of orders we're receiving, we need to produce 20 tonnes a week – we're almost running at that capacity.

"Although famous for its traditional recipes and sweet making processes, Stockley's is nevertheless investing heavily into continued product development as it moves forward. With the recent move to our new facilities, we are in a strong position to develop bespoke products for customers, adapting our products and processes to meet individual needs. The new factory is an important investment which will help facilitate this growth."

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