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B38 Group

B38 Group wins total facilities management contract for Europe's most advanced vehicle auction centre



Vehicle remarketing business Aston Barclay has chosen fast-growing B38 Group to provide a full range of property support services at its new 70,000sq ft vehicle auction mega centre near Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Opened in January 2019, the 18 acre Normanton site features two glass-fronted auction halls and has storage for 2,500 vehicles, as well as having leisure facilities, a restaurant and meeting rooms. It is believed to be the most modern and technologically advanced auction facility in Europe.

Following a competitive tender, Wakefield-based B38 Group was awarded a three year contract to provide a total facilities management (TFM) service covering both 'hard' technical building services as well as cleaning and other 'soft' services.

"The opening of our Wakefield mega centre is part of our strategy of combining digital technology with a first class physical auction experience in order to create large, regional auction hubs," explains Martin Potter, managing director of Aston Barclay. "With banks of video screens and a high spec internal finish, the mega centre has been designed to provide a dynamic market environment and it's vital that customers have the best possible experience when they visit.

“We chose B38 Group because it is able to provide a complete TFM service across both hard and soft services, and we were also impressed by the company’s commitment to providing in-house delivery, giving it greater control and ensuring consistently high levels of customer care.”

Steve Trott, who leads B38 Group’s soft services division, said: “Aston Barclay is pioneering an exciting approach, bridging the gap between a digital and physical auction environment. For that to work effectively, the company needs to be certain that its bricks and mortar centres are always well-presented and in full working order, despite the large numbers of customers and vehicles passing through. Open daily and with three auctions a week, there’s a huge number of people visiting and we’re enjoying the challenge of keeping Europe’s most modern vehicle auction centre looking and operating at its best.”

B38 Group offers a comprehensive facilities management operation for private sector clients and blue-chip organisations nationwide, working across the retail, manufacturing, logistics, corporate, education and healthcare sectors. Having seen significant growth over the last eight years, it is committed to becoming one of the most highly regarded privately owned hard and soft service maintenance companies in the UK.

Pictures show: Aston Barclay’s auction centre in Wakefield