



Group Managing Director
Robert Horwich

RDM Engineering moves to new factory after just 43 years!!

RDM Engineering, the Middleton, Manchester, based Paint Finishing Plant manufacturer has just moved into its new state of the art head office and manufacturing facility in Stakehill, Manchester.

RDM Engineering, first established in Kemp Street, Middleton, in 1951 has remained under the same family ownership ever since. Their large and imposing Victorian building had become a well known local landmark.

The Company has expanded in different areas to become not only one of the UK's largest manufacturers of Industrial Ovens and Paint Finishing Systems but also the world's largest manufacturer of electronic motor stopping systems.

In recent years, significant sales expansion required that they move into new, larger and custom designed premises. Group Managing Director, Robert Horwich, says "When the opportunity arose for us to move we set about designing our perfect new facility.

"We knew that we wanted to remain in the Middleton area. Our ties with the local economy and the people of the area run deep; furthermore this offered the opportunity to keep our entire workforce, many of whom have been with us for a good many years.



Also, this would enable us to retain our phone number, this is very important when you consider our huge back catalogue of installations and clients who may wish to contact us after many years."

"I also particularly wanted premises in a rural surrounding. I believe having a pleasant outlook significantly improves both staff morale and Customer impression". "Furthermore, good Motorway links are essential; since so much of our product is shipped far away from us, both within the UK and overseas."

A site was located on Stakehill Lane, Middleton, Manchester in November 2003. Being close to the prestigious Stakehill Distribution Estate, excellent communications were assured, whilst its location at the edge of the estate offered a pleasant rural aspect. The team at RDM then set about, utilising their design skills, so often used to assist clients, to build a facility which would be ideal for their own use.

The whole facility was designed and built from scratch, with the actual construction phase taking only a remarkable 10 weeks from start to moving in! This was down to careful planning and detailed project management, the company's forte. Representing an investment of over £ 2,000,000 the new factory fea-

tures a beautiful, huge reception area, superb conference and office facilities and over 30,000 square feet of production space. When you walk around the new facility, you can see that great care has been taken in the design. Robert Horwich,



again; "For example, I wanted the corridors to have the look and feel of a ship's engine room! So we designed them to be unusually wide and built the steel work for the upper floors to be exposed underneath, this gives a great feeling of space and provides the 'Hi-Tech' look that I wanted.

I like an open feel to offices, so we made sure that all of the working areas, even my own office, had large windows, both to the outside and inside. In this way we feel part of a team, working together, but without the drawbacks and noise often associated with open plan offices.

I also wanted the offices to look out onto the factory; this along with the large, comfortable canteen, where everyone can share the facilities and have a chat over a cup of coffee or lunch further assists with our team ethos."

In the Factory area, the work flow is ideal. The company has, as part of the move, invested heavily in new Computer controlled CNC sheet metal punches worth over £ 300, 000.

These form the backbone of their sheet metal production. Work flows through to the Computer controlled steel folders, panel assembly areas, steel fabrication and welding and finally dispatch, where the four large load bays allow fast loading onto their vehicles for deliveries all over the world.

In the electronics assembly area, the room has even been fitted out with food grade flooring to ensure excellent cleanliness and a bright appearance. The room has been laid out so that the circuit board assemblers can look up and see the real world outside! This is important for people doing close up precision work all day. Even the Accounts offices have been designed to give the staff a good view of the field of horses across the road!

Having moved into their new premises in August, RDM Engineering, are clearly very confident about their own future and the future of UK manufacturing in general. In turbulent times, this significant investment demonstrates their commitment and investment in the local and the British economy.



RDM Industrial Services Limited

Stakehill Lane, Middleton, Manchester M24 2RW England

Tel. 0161 643 9333 Fax 0161 655 3467

London Tel. 020 7320 9333 Email: sales@rdmengineering.co.uk