

# Making it in Leeds

News Release from Leeds Manufacturing  
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## Siemens Gears Up With £1.2M Leeds Plant

One of the world's leading engineering and manufacturing companies, Siemens, has invested an initial £1.2m in transferring its Mechanical Drives business from Bradford to brand new premises on Navigation Park in Stourton, Leeds.

The move is designed to enable the £15m operation handle additional and bigger contracts, including work to support the group's planned major offshore wind turbine manufacturing plant in Hull. It follows Siemens' 2005 acquisition of Flender's gear and gear-motor business for 1.2bn Euros.

The new, purpose-built 50,000 sq ft Leeds factory has created 30% more production space, increased height for 25-tonne cranes and room to optimise production cell layouts and materials handling flows. Work there includes gears assembly, geared motors, motors and couplings for the rail, utilities and general industry and for the growing renewable energy sector, including wind and wave power.

Export orders are already being fulfilled for energy provider customers as far afield as China. Intelligent drive systems from the division also power rail haulage and baggage handling at Heathrow, Gatwick and Munich airports. In the latter case, the airport is committed to deliver passenger luggage within 15 minutes of landing, via an intelligent Siemens system travelling at 50kph, with energy regeneration built-in.

While many of the site's 54 skilled employees have transferred from the outgrown Bradford base, an apprentice scheme has also been created to help develop a new generation of skilled engineers. Nearby motorway links are a bonus for the new site and commuting staff.

Passionate about manufacturing, general manager in charge Simon Nadin, says: "Siemens is committed to investing in Britain's industrial future, which is crucial in the current economic climate. Mechanical gears are a key element in production of drive train systems and we aim to continue to invest in and develop our capabilities in this area here at our new site in Leeds.

"In addition to enhancing our manufacturing capability, we're also creating a showcase facility in Leeds with a world class product display and training area for our staff, seminars that will benefit others in the industry and Siemens partners, plus an extension of our consultancy services."

The Stourton site features a host of Siemens technologies, including internal and external security measures, energy efficient lighting systems and drive mechanisms for cranes and other machinery: "This is in line with our aim to add value, conserve energy and improve services," says Simon Nadin.

Cllr Richard Lewis, Leeds City Council's executive member for development, said: "Siemens is a global manufacturing company and the relocation of the mechanical drives division to Leeds represents a major investment in the future of manufacturing in the city. The new factory is a world class facility."

**Ends**

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**Photography:** Cllr Richard Lewis (left), Leeds City Council's executive member for development and Simon Nadin (right), Siemens Leeds general manager gearing up at the new Siemens site in Leeds.

**Note to Editors:**

1. Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 168 years ago and now employs around 16,000 people in the UK and **405,000 people worldwide** Last year's revenues were £4.1 billion. As a leading global engineering and technology services company, Siemens provides innovative solutions to help tackle the world's major challenges, across the key sectors of energy, industry and healthcare. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Frimley, Surrey. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit [www.siemens.co.uk](http://www.siemens.co.uk)
2. Leeds is the UK's second largest centre for manufacturing outside London, with over 36,000 people employed by 1,815 companies across engineering, print and paper manufacture, food and drink, electronics, textiles and medical technologies. The sector generates 10.8% of the city's £15 billion annual output.