

Deritend moves gearbox production to new state-of-the-art facility

Deritend Industries has announced today that it is intending to move all its West Midlands based gearbox production, repair and fabrication work to its new state-of-the art engineering workshop based at Brandon Way, West Bromwich. The new facility will house the smaller gearbox work for the West Midlands area as well as the Large Rotating Machines business established there in early 2008. The new facility joins several of Deritend's 14 other workshops across the UK offering true 24hr maintenance support and engineering services.

Commenting, Operations Director, Alex Meiklejohn said, "The industries we serve are predominantly 24hr operations, from power stations, to water processing plants, hospitals, petrochemical sites and some of the larger food producers. It makes sense for us to concentrate our operations on the most up-to-date and modern facilities in each area. Deritend has effectively been doubling-up with the maintenance of the former RMB Engineering works, also in West Bromwich. The proposal for this older facility is that it will now be closed in-line with our plans for business development and a balanced geographical coverage."

The new, purpose-built facility at Brandon Way provides Deritend with 32,000 ft sq of efficient work space specially designed for working with gearboxes and large machines. It has already allowed the business to significantly expand its capacity to serve industries such as power generation, mining and steel production with large gearboxes and fabrication work. The integration of the smaller gearbox business completes the change-over to the new site, based just a mile away from the original facility.

Richard K Hale, Deritend Group MD adds, "There is no doubt that we would have taken longer about reducing the activity at the older site, had market conditions permitted, but the recessionary climate has meant that we have brought forward plans to ensure that we remain lean and at the forefront of maintenance engineering technology. The new facility is extremely efficient and we have been able to offer many of the staff including our

engineering apprentices a move over to the new facility. We expect there to be a small number of redundancies after the full consultation period, but any impact on our overall skills base will be kept to an absolute minimum. We believe that manufacturing industry in the UK is one of the key elements to surviving the present recession, and we are committed to helping to improve competitiveness by reducing costs and improving efficiency, it also looks like government is starting to agree with us for once."

Deritend offers one of the most comprehensive breakdown engineering, machining and fabrication services in the UK. The expansion of services from the Brandon Way site and the support of all Deritend's existing workshops and specialist suppliers across the UK means that all existing customers can expect a fast and efficient service both during the transition period and thereafter.

About Deritend

Deritend Industries is one of the UK's fastest growing and most dynamic maintenance services organisations, encompassing several specialist engineering operations within the group. The largest component of the group, Deritend, operates onsite electromechanical engineering teams and a nationwide branch network including engineering workshops placed strategically across the UK. The Group also includes a large UK based pre-formed windings production site, and other specialist engineering operations covering induction services, condition monitoring and machine tools services.

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