

## **Company Statement on the Need for Additional Floorspace at LMK Thermosafe Ltd Rookwood Way**

LMK Thermosafe first moved into their factory on Rookwood Way in 2011 in order to accommodate growth as there was no more capacity at their 9-10 Moonhall Business Park address.

In the subsequent years we have increased investment in machinery and people and have now completely filled the existing capacity.

The biggest constraint on physical space has become our ability to store adequate volumes of raw materials and work-in-progress to feed all our machinery, so our prime intent in looking at temporary storage in our yard is to have adequate additional secure and dry space for these larger volumes, and secure our expansion plans for the coming decade.

Additionally, we are investing in another robot sewing machine inside our factory unit and can only accommodate this by removing some of the storage racking currently in the main building.

This proposed expansion will both preserve the jobs of our existing Haverhill workforce of around 20 people, (having doubled in headcount in the last few years) and create capacity for at least another 10 jobs over time.

No change of use is proposed or currently intended.

Our original plan was to purchase the buildings next to our headquarters at 9-10 Moonhall Business Park when the Gym that had occupied units 11 & 12 closed down a couple of years ago. It was not, however, possible to purchase the building.

Thus, if we cannot expand at our Rookwood way site, if this application is refused, we would be forced to look at relocating both sites to larger, more affordable premises outside the local area which could jeopardise Haverhill jobs. This would not be our preferred option by any means as we have a loyal workforce, but suitable alternative freehold premises for our needs in Haverhill are not available.

Mr M Newton Managing Director LMK Thermosafe Ltd