



The company produces blown film on extrusion lines at its locations in Leeds.

Investing in the film industry

Marpak Extrusions recently expanded with a new factory site in Leeds, investing around £2 million in its infrastructure and equipment. Its sister company Talos has also unveiled its Transport Simulator, which allows companies to gain first-hand knowledge of how palletised goods react during transportation prior to putting them on the road, and is used by companies such as Ardagh. Sally Love visited the company and spoke with Commercial Director Jamie Gibson, to discuss the recent investments and the company's plans for the future.

What does Marpak Extrusions produce?

Marpak produces flexible polyethylene based packaging, specialising in the field of pallet protection, and has over 30 years combined experience in the blown film extrusion and conversion market. We make the shrink-wrapping as well as the palletisers, in conjunction with the Danish company Lachenmeier. Basically we offer cold-end packaging solutions – there are a number of solutions that we've provided for the glass container industry, such as bottle diverters.

Can you give me a brief history of the company?

Marpak was started in 1979 by Richard Gibson. He was working for a Swedish company and decided

to start on his own – he was already in packaging so it made sense to continue in that field. He built the business up, moved premises, kept scaling, then moved to Westland Square in 1990. He had four or five extrusion lines and started working with Rockware, who became our biggest customer. One thing led to another, and we progressed within the glass industry.

In 1999 or 2000 he sold the company, and we subsequently restarted circa 2003. Initially we started up with a single extruder in Barnsley and started to supply Ardagh again, which built the business up. We then bought a facility in Leeds and started producing there, then moved back

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