## REGIONAL INSIGHTS

SHOWCASING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT SUCCESSES IN THE **THAMES VALLEY** 



### Owen Mumford

Owen Mumford is a global leader in medical device design and manufacture; investing over £14m into new state of the art Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) certified building, advanced manufacturing technologies and delivering medical device solutions responding to customer and market needs.

To keep up with industry demands and maintain our position at the forefront of the industry it is essential that we remain committed to evolving our infrastructure and facilities to improve efficiency and reduce our environmental impact.

Over the past three years we solidified that commitment with the practical completion of our new state-of- the-art facility in Witney, Oxfordshire.

The site has set a benchmark for world-class design and development in medical devices, establishing a centre of excellence for automation and assembly to deliver a portfolio that drives innovation and growth for the long term. It will be the location for production of our recently launched, next generation auto-injector Aidaptus®. Compatible with either a 1mL or 2.25mL prefilled syringe, Aidaptus features a minimal number of change parts, in the same base device, making it a very flexible and intuitive device for drug delivery. Furthermore, the facility will be home to the manufacturing of our pioneering springless safety syringe Unisafe® and the latest lancets for blood sampling.

Owen Mumford is dedicated to improving the quality of life for patients worldwide. Our product portfolio, which includes devices for diabetes care, auto-injection, and blood sampling, showcases our expertise in creating solutions that meet the specific needs of healthcare providers and patients alike. Our commitment to the Healthcare and Life Sciences (HLS) sector is further evidenced by our continual investment in research and development, aiming to address the evolving challenges in healthcare with cutting-edge technology and design.

For over 70 years we have evolved our manufacturing processes across our operations, both worldwide and especially in the UK, whilst refining our supply chain. We adopt the latest in high speed, high volume assembly line technology, utilising fully automated assembly equipment, 100% quality checks are maintained in a clean-room environment and we run our own in-house injection moulding equipment. All of this delivers peace of mind to our customers, ensuring that delivery of life-enhancing medication is uninterrupted and guarantees traceability. Operating in such a heavily regulated industry, all our operations are GMP compliant.

By investing £14 million into the site and the advanced manufacturing technologies, we aim to not only address the immediate market needs but also solidify ourselves as a leader within the medical device industry. This strategic move aligns with the company's 2030 vision to grow profitably and make a positive difference to our customers, our users, our associates and our environment. The Witney facility not only signifies a commitment to quality and efficiency but also serves as a platform for Owen Mumford to explore and embark on new and exciting projects, demonstrating the company's dedication to continuous improvement.

As a global business and significant local employer, we have a commitment to carry out our business responsibly across all our markets, however, due to our roots within Oxfordshire, the importance of our local community plays a markedly special role. That is why we are especially proud to say that our Witney site was constructed, right in our back garden, with sustainability in mind from the offset. It was crucial that construction caused minimal impact to the surrounding environment and eco-system, and so we are pleased that the building is set to be included in the top 25 percent of buildings assessed through the BREEAM. The BREEAM certification recognises the highest levels of environmental, social and economic sustainability performance, requiring us to adhere to environmentally conscious planning, including consideration for the biodiversity of the site.

At the start of construction, we worked in conjunction with sustainability and conservation specialists to best incorporate bat and bird boxes into the building's design, alongside the integration of hedgehog gates and nature routes to ensure habitat connectivity and mitigate disturbance to local wildlife. One of the key ways in which we met sustainability targets during the build phase was through our disposal of construction waste, with 97 percent of it being diverted from landfill. Additionally, to maintain our sustainable practices, the site is using 100 percent renewable energy, with part of that being supplied by our own solar panels that generated 21,000 KwH last year. Following our other UK sites, 12 electronic charging points have been installed for EV users.

Further to this, we donated to a local charity, the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE), as part of the responsible development process.

By donating to this reputable trust, we helped to deliver a biodiversity uplift project within the Oxfordshire region and, as a result, our site was awarded with a Biodiversity Net Gain agreement. The project in question is a grassland creation initiative near Enstone, in Oxfordshire. Using our donation, TOE will be returning arable land to species-rich grassland, using locally sourced seed from a diverse meadow. Managing the project in a traditional manner with a mix of low-level grazing and hay cuts, this long-term project will secure a high-quality species rich meadow for at least the next 30 years.



Paul Smith, Group Quality & Regulatory Affairs Director, Owen Mumford

We are setting the benchmark high for manufacturing to do its part in the overall reduction of environmental impact. Our investment in this new facility supports the promises we make to all our stakeholders by providing the very best platform for innovation in our products, but most importantly by doing it in a truly responsible and ethical way.

## moderna

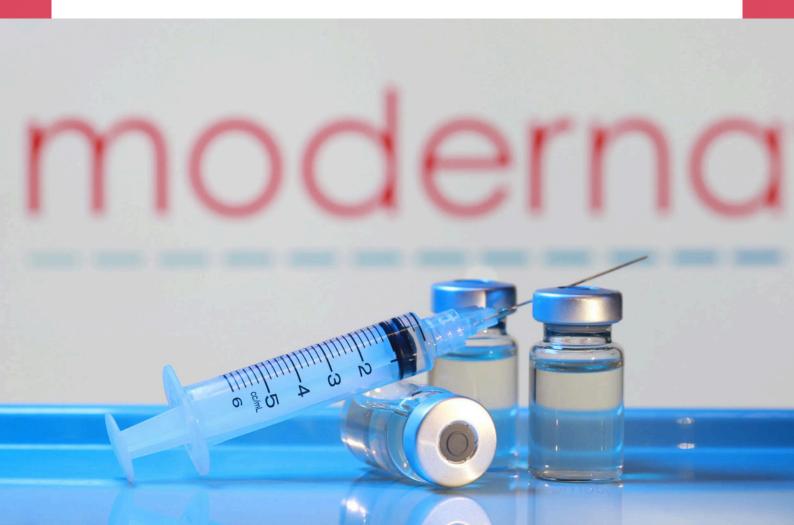
"Since breaking ground in April 2023, the Moderna Innovation and Technology Centre (MITC), located at the Harwell Science and Innovation Campus in Oxfordshire, is nearing a pivotal stage of development and completion.

The clinical laboratories, which were constructed in Northumberland and transported to Harwell by a convoy of 52 lorries, will be operational by the end of the year. The laboratories will process samples from Moderna's clinical trials across the UK and Europe, enabling rapid evaluation of clinical data on the effectiveness of potential therapeutics and vaccines. The drug substance manufacturing unit is also fast approaching a key milestone, with the completion of construction expected by the end of the year. Once operational, the facility will have the capacity to produce up to 100 million vaccine doses per year, ramping up to 250 million in the event of a pandemic.

The MITC is being constructed as part of Moderna's ten-year strategic partnership with the UK government to enhance pandemic preparedness and provide the UK public with access to innovative mRNA vaccines for a wide range of infectious diseases. The facility is expected to be fully operational by mid-2025 and will employ 150+ people."

Moderna is a world leading biotech company which develops mRNA vaccines and therapeutics. Their UK partnership enhances innovation, job creation, and pandemic preparedness, including a new facility near Oxford. To date, Moderna has produced over 1 billion doses of their COVID-19 vaccine, Spikevax.

This effort underscores Moderna's significant role in the global pandemic response and their commitment to ensuring equitable vaccine access, heavily focused in their £1bn investment into Harwell (Oxford).





Yondr, a leading global developer, owner and operator of hyperscale data Centres, showcases the importance of their £1 billion, 100MW data centre (DC) campus located in Slough, Berkshire – the centre of one of Europe's most prominent DC hubs.

With Yondr's first (of three) DC's ready for service, we invited Paul Hood, COO – Global Data Centre Operations, to outline some of the impact this project is having on wider UK supply chains:

- During construction phase, Yondr completed more than 1.7m person hours with more than 8000 different people involved.
- UK manufacturers have benefitted from over £112m of total spend on main equipment i.e. electrical switchgear, standby generators, electrical cables, cooling equipment, fire alarm systems and sprinklers
- Around £269m total spend on UK companies and consultants. With a strong commitment to sustainability, the project aims to achieve a "very good" BREEAM certification.
- To employ two apprentices each year, actively engaged in the UTC Heathrow and invited to participate in TVCC's Berkshire Local Skills Improvement Plan.
- Lifecycle replacement, of infrastructure equipment, expected to be circa £60 - £90m

Yondr want to highlight the real success story behind the local catering company now on-site. When works commenced in 2022, the contractor was providing 60 people meals from a food van.

The contractor is now running a catering facility onsite serving breakfast, lunch and dinner to all operatives which at peak was a 1000 people.

On the 29th Jaunary 2025 Yondr Group celebrated the groundbreaking for it's third data centre on campus.



#### Paul Hood, COO, Global Data Centre Operations, Yondr

Our proven track record of delivering reliable and resilient hyperscale DC capacity around the world and here in Berkshire. With our Slough campus, we are proving that DC performance, environmental responsibility, aesthetics and sensitivity to residents - alongside the economic and multiplier effects of construction and delivery - can all be factored into why DCs are important to local and national economies and critical to UK plc.

Finally, we do want to thank TVCC for their invaluable help, throughout, and support in enabling our campus development to progress smoothly. We're looking forward to continuing our strong partnership with TVCC and Slough Borough Council, to ensure all objectives of this project advances.

Our Centre of Excellence for Inward Investment (CXII) have been supporting Yondr deliver their £1bn investment in Berkshire, ensuring its development progresses. This is a substantial commitment to the UK's DC infrastructure, not just for Slough but for the wider supply chain that supports the construction phases. We are pleased to be associated with the scale of projects that are bringing economic growth, not just to the Thames Valley, but the UK

Paul Britton, CEO, Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce

### THOMAS FRANKS

Thomas Franks is a market-leading, privately-owned caterer with a strong understanding of the independent school and business sector. Over the last 20 years, as a family-owned business, we have built a reputation for providing amazing quality, seasonal and nutritious food to our clients.

Thomas Franks was founded on the principles of providing freshly produced, locally sourced food by fully trained staff whose wellbeing is at the forefront of everything we do.

Thomas Franks has had a particularly exciting year in business, from winning a space in the Sunday Times 100 Best Places to Work List to our B Corp journey and the launch of our charitable initiatives in our international sector.

When it comes to charity, the Thomas Franks Foundation has recently opened in Malta, leading to our newfound total of 3.6 million meals donated to those in need, with some Thomas Franks locations producing upwards of 20,000 meals in just three days. Alongside this, our journey with our partners at City Harvest London - who increase our outreach to over 500 charities in the capital - has reached new heights, with more fundraising and plans in the works.

Winning a position in the Sunday Times 100 Best Places to Work List means a great deal to us, especially as it has been two years running. It is a testament to the hard work and inclusive culture that is embraced by everyone at Thomas Franks, something that is also demonstrated by our Investors In People Gold accreditation. This was further cemented through being shortlisted for the Workplace Culture Award at the Caterer's People Awards.



At the start of 2024, we partnered with Planet Mark to certify our carbon metrics and support our journey to Net Zero. In addition to working with our stakeholders to educate and engage them in our collective journey to decarbonisation, Planet Mark have been instrumental in helping us to process and plan a realistic journey to decarbonisation across the wider networks within which we do business.

This journey is complex and will take time. However, in collaborating with clients, partners, technology providers and our innovative and creative employees, we are able to harness networks of powerful change-makers and future leaders.

The coming year will see us explore a range of new technologies, climate change innovations, carbon targets and client engagement offerings - all to create a greater understanding of carbon as a 'currency' for environmental and social change.

FEEDING Communities

# nlighten

The UK the sixth largest economy in the world and one of the most diversified. The country's economic strength is based on strong service, industrial and financial sectors, many represented in the Thames Valley. The UK's financial industry is one of the largest in the world, a key driver of the country's digitisation, and world leading cluster of datacentres centred on Slough and stretching along the M4 corridor to Swindon.

The Thames Valley region, driven by London's world-leading centre for financial services, has become an important economic hub which rely on edge data centres for continued growth. The Thames Valley has long been associated with the digital technology economy, and it remains a key growth driver for the UK economy and accounts for an increasingly large share of GDP and new jobs creation. Considerable investment is being made in the expansion of broadband and mobile networks, and nationwide coverage with broadband and 5G is excellent

This is the basis for the nLighten's investment across the UK, through acquisition and expansion, with ten carrier-neutral edge data centres established, including their 1,580m2 / 5,700 kW edge datacentre space facility in Swindon, investment than confirms the UK datacentre sector remains competitive.

Through the integration of our UK data centres with nLighten's pan-European capacity, we are establishing the leading platform for regional edge data centres in Europe including our base in Swindon. We are encouraged by the spotlight on the datacentre sector in the new 2035 industrial strategy, however, to unlock the further investment of Swindon, and wider Thames Valley, we would benefit from a clearer sector strategy, from local and national policy makers.

Justin Nesbitt, UK Sales Director, nLighten



The importance of supporting educational opportunities for medical professionals is a long-standing philosophy within KARL STORZ UK. By partnering with UK hospitals, Royal Colleges and Universities, over 500 educational events are supported annually across a selection of medical specialties. International clinicians come together to deliver academic training in the form of lectures, hands-on practicals, meetings, congresses, literature, and webinars.

As technology advances, so do the needs of medical professionals. The continuous evolution in equipment capabilities comes with its challenges, accessibility being one of them. Interacting with state-of-the-art devices inside an active operating theatre isn't a practical or reliable solution.

In June 2020, KARL STORZ UK decided to create their own environment to showcase the latest surgical advancements in the form of a fully integrated operating theatre, located within their Head Office in the Slough Trading Estate. By April 2021, inspiration had manifested into reality with the unveiling of the Training and Technology Centre.



The Training and Technology Centre, otherwise known as the TTC, has been designed to meet the exacting standards of medical professionals. The Centre's large floorplan is split into different zones, creating an adaptable space for healthcare professionals to use outside of their own hospital or day-to-day medical setting.

The crowning jewel of the TTC is a fully operational ORI™ surgical theatre. This is one of the most technologically advanced operating rooms in the UK which will never see a patient! Surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and other medical professionals value this space for simulation-based training as they're learning in an environment that's familiar to them. Adjacent to the theatre is a dedicated anaesthetics room, ideal for clinicians to develop their airway management skills. Within these simulation zones is a clinical setting that comfortably hosts large groups for outpatient demonstrations. The largest training space in the TTC, named the Vista, is the epitome of flexibility; large enough to seat over 80 people for lecture-based learning, or accommodating 15 workstations for hands-on surgical skills training.

We provide the environment and the equipment to facilitate and enable healthcare professionals to further their clinical knowledge and expertise.

Mark Martin, UK Sales and Marketing Director, Karl Storz

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