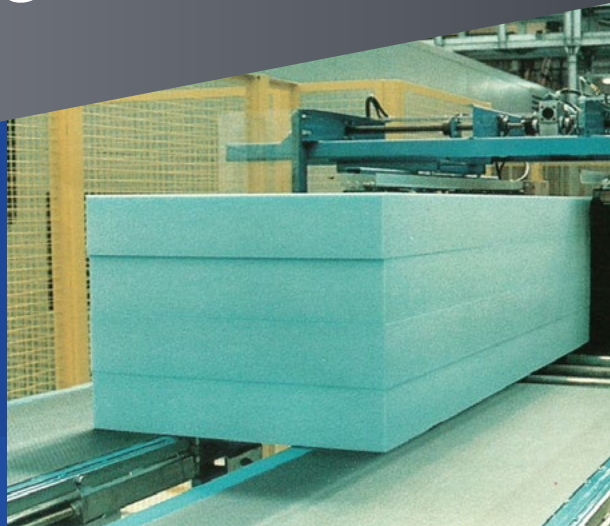


KINGS LYNN: BEST IN WORLD



OUR PROUD HISTORY
60 years of XPS

Ravago Building Solutions, Europe's largest extruded polystyrene insulation (XPS) manufacturer, has relaunched its market-leading range of XPS.



STYROFOAM

King's Lynn: Best in the World

The Styrofoam plant at King's Lynn leapt to the forefront of European Styrofoam production when it opened its new plant.

The plant was officially opened by Lee Trentis, vice president of Fabricated Products for Dow Europe, in the presence of King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Mayor Charles Markin. Although this was the official opening, the plant has been operating since June 1st following a six week shutdown to complete the switchover from the old to the new line. Other guests included local representatives and industrial neighbours, customers, and Dow sales and production personnel plus many of the project team. Trentis unveiled a plaque to commemorate the day and the plant's success to many of our key customers attended and had a guided tour of the new plant and a buffet lunch. The day was a great commercial success too as a chance to see the plant in operation. They were also able to talk to the plant people involved in making and delivering their product.

The total project which included a £1 million warehouse was budgeted at nearly £10 million but the final bill is expected to show a saving of about £1 million which is in line with capital reduction targets being set by the company. The new computer controlled line means increased efficiency, increased capacity and more flexibility. It also has the capability to make Styrofoam boards longer, thicker and vice versa as was previously possible to meet changing market needs.

The opening of the plant also marks the 25th anniversary of Styrofoam production at King's Lynn. To acknowledge this the plant personnel enjoyed a celebratory cake to mark this milestone in the history of Styrofoam production at King's Lynn.

King's Lynn New Styrofoam Production Plant Project 1991 - 1993

The only time you'll see Floormate on a wall!

IN A SHORT CEREMONY held at Stockley Park recently Roger Bamford of the British Board of Agrément presented a delighted Paul Morris, regional sales manager for the Construction Products group, with a framed copy of the British Board of Agrément Certificate. The certificate was awarded to Floormate® 200, 350 and 500 floor insulation - products from The Styrofoam® Plan range of extruded polystyrene insulation materials manufactured at King's Lynn.

A BBA certificate is like a royal seal of approval and this recent certificate has been eagerly awaited by all Dow Construction Products personnel and distributors. No other extruded polystyrene insulation manufacturer has an Agrément Certificate for a floor insulation product so this award provides Dow with a keen competitive edge at a time when the UK construction market is somewhat depressed and hence highly competitive.

The BBA is a Government-backed organisation whose main function is to assess and test construction products, issuing Agrément Certificates to those which meet its high standards.

The Agrément concept was introduced in to the UK in 1995. It is a report by a Government recognised the need to establish a independent body for the testing of new or unusual products. It was considered that such arrangements would encourage the acceptance of innovation by the construction industry, and associated professions, by giving authoritative assurance that such new or different products met the claims made for them.

An Agrément Certificate gives an independent opinion of the 'fitness for purpose' of a product or system. All relevant performance factors are assessed, including safety, installation, durability and other essential requirements, and those awarded with a certificate are subject to quality surveillance by the BBA during the period of validity of the Certificate.

Assessment by the BBA is painstaking and thorough so no-one was more pleased and relieved to receive the certificate than Dr Stephen Johnson, Construction Product's senior development engineer, who guided the project from start to finish!

The Construction Products department intends to make the most of this recent coup and have made it the centre piece of their latest Floormate advertisement, scheduled to appear in the building press throughout the Autumn.

Cover: Roger Bamford (left) presents the BBA Certificate to Paul Morris (centre) and Dr Stephen Johnson.

Below: Look for the latest Floormate advertisement during the Autumn.

£10 MILLION INVESTMENT

KING'S LYNN WAS recently given the 'green light' from The Board of The Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan, USA, for a major capital investment in the development of a project which started back in 1988 when it was decided to supply 1.2 metre wide product to the European market, in addition to the 0.6 metre product.

To manufacture 1.2m wide Styrofoam boards in King's Lynn requires the complete replacement of all the plant equipment responsible for forming and machining the foam to the finished dimensions. A new line will be constructed in an existing building and a new control room will be built. The new plant will be producing product by mid-1993, and until then customers will be supplied from Rheinmunster, Germany.

In addition to the plant expansion, separate approval was received to increase the existing plant's warehouse capacity. This means that all The Styrofoam Plan range of products will in future be stored undercover which will eliminate weathering of the packaging. The warehouse will cover an area of 5,000 square metres, which is the size of a small football pitch, and will be fire protected by a sprinkler system which is designed to new and more stringent Dow standards. The new warehouse will be completed by the end of this year.

Commenting on this £10 million investment, Graham Godwin who is the Plant Superintendent at King's Lynn said: "These projects are a great boost for the Construction Products Department and the plant at King's Lynn. It clearly demonstrates a long term confidence and will allow us tremendous flexibility of production to meet our customers' needs in the 1990s."

Work underway on-site at King's Lynn

Landmark projects:

The company was a UK pioneer in developing XPS products and will continue to make them at the Norfolk plant as it has done for over 60 years. Its BREEAM and BBA certified insulation products are used to create energy efficient, high performance residential and commercial buildings. In recent years they have been used on high-profile developments such as the 2018 Stirling Prize-winning Bloomberg headquarters, the Westfield shopping centre and the Royal Wharf development, all in London.

FLOORMATE 200

Floor insulation so versatile, it earned a place on our boardroom wall.

RAVATHERM™ XPS X

Ravatherm XPS X is the new name for the UK's best performing range of grey boards for roofs and floors, all with exceptional lambda values. With a strong heritage and UK manufacturing stretching back 60 years, Ravatherm XPS X offers architects and building specifiers a wide range of thicknesses and compressive strengths which ensures that the most creative of design specifications can be met.

Download the new Ravatherm App: Ravathermapp.com

Ravatherm product	Previously
Ravatherm XPS X 300 SL	XENERGY SL
Ravatherm XPS X MK	XENERGY MK
Ravatherm XPS X UB 300	XENERGY LG
Ravatherm XPS X 300 SB	FLOORMATE 300
Ravatherm XPS X 500 SL	FLOORMATE 500
Ravatherm XPS X 700 SL	FLOORMATE 700
New product	
Ravatherm XPS X ULTRA 300 SL	
Ravatherm XPS X 200 SB	

People who made it happen ...

Dow Styrofoam® extruded polystyrene insulation foam was first produced at King's Lynn in 1968. Although the plant has been upgraded many times over the years, the point was finally reached where it was necessary to replace the entire line.

This presented us with the opportunity to increase the plant's flexibility and make it capable of producing wider, thicker and longer products so that we can meet our customer's changing needs, both now and in the future.

The major improvements have included a new centralised control room for the Styrofoam and Polystyrene-Foam plants, computerised control of the Styrofoam manufacturing process, the addition of a new material handling system and the building of a fully automated finishing line.

Innovative technology has been incorporated in many of these areas to make this the most modern and technologically advanced Styrofoam production plant in the world.

New the team at King's Lynn can not only reflect with justifiable pride on its achievements of the past 25 years, but can also look forward confidently to the future and the challenges it will face in the next 25 years.

For the moment though, I would like to take you through some of the events of the last 2 years - the most intense period of activity in the history of the plant - and acknowledge the people whose expertise made them happen.

Graham Godwin Plant Superintendent From Plastic August 1993

Phase 1 was the demolition of an old warehouse - built in 1967 - and build a new control room.

which was completed in September 2005.

...and construction of the new office block progressed.

The old line produced its last product on 17th April 2003 after years in service.

With the first green product produced on 3rd June. Within a few weeks, thanks to unconditional staff commitment...

...our warehouses were full and supply to our customers uninterrupted.

Phase 2 was the demolition of an old warehouse - built in 1967 - and six weeks of intense shutdown activity commenced.

Dow The Dow Chemical Company Limited King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 3JD



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