

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE ASHTON GROUP BUILDING

On Friday 21st April 2006, the winners of the BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, Darren Bennett and Lilia Kopylova, officially opened the purpose built headquarters of the Ashton Group at Cortonwood Business Park, Brampton, Barnsley.

Tim Wills, great, great grandson of the founder of Thomas A. Ashton and Chairman of the Ashton Group, commented "The trading estate itself is now firmly established and, through a combination of our effective stock management systems and a strong emphasis on customer service throughout the Ashton Group, we are well placed for the next period of growth."

This year also marks the 140th anniversary of the Ashton Group and the move to Cortonwood has given further course for celebration as, for the first time, all of the companies within the Ashton Group are at the same location.

The companies that make up the Ashton Group are;

- Ashton Seals Limited; a leading supplier of O-Rings and associated sealing products.
- Ashtons (Sheffield) Limited; specialists in providing Plastic Point-of-Sale Packaging, Promotional and Stationery products.
- Ashton Corporate Clothing; suppliers of corporate uniforms

Tim Wills stated "The establishment of all the Ashton Group companies in the one modern purpose built facility will substantially reduce the overheads and improve our overall productivity through more efficient working frontiers.

At the same time we already have and will continue to provide a boost to the local economy in the Dearne Valley with the creation of additional jobs."

Press release from The Ashton Group 24th April 2006