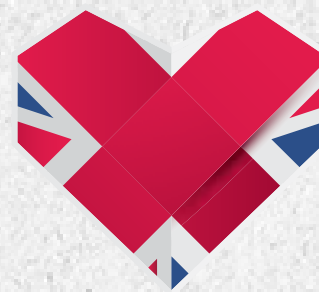


BACKING BRITAIN



BACKING
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WE
NEED
YOU

Did you know that the manufacturing sector employs over **2.6 million** people in the UK and contributes **£224 billion** to our economy? What about that manufacturing accounts for half of total UK exports or **41%** of all business research and development.

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**BACKING
BRITAIN**

The Future of UK Manufacturing Depends on Your Support

Manufacturing is not just another sector—it's the backbone of our prosperity and a cornerstone of our national security. Yet, despite its immense importance, manufacturing faces significant challenges that threaten its long-term resilience and competitiveness. And once manufacturing capacity is lost, it is incredibly difficult, if not impossible, to regain. This critical point needs to be understood at the highest levels of government.

As passionate advocates for UK manufacturing, we see an urgent need for a shift in how our government engages with our sector. Made in Group, a collective of regional membership organisations dedicated to uniting UK manufacturing, is calling for the appointment of an industry expert as the Minister for Manufacturing. This proposal aims to fundamentally reshape how we address the challenges and opportunities within our industry.

The Need for Experienced Leadership

While we respect the service of our current political leaders, we believe the current political landscape is ill-equipped to navigate the complexities of modern manufacturing and supply chains. The rise of career politicians in recent times has come at the expense of practical, on-the-ground experience. We need leaders who understand the real-world implications of their decisions, especially when it comes to manufacturing.

COVID-19: A Wake-Up Call

The recent pandemic served as a stark reminder of our vulnerability and showed firsthand how crucial a strong manufacturing base is for our nation's security and self-sufficiency. During the initial PPE shortage, our supply chains were stretched thin, and the lack of a robust industrial strategy left the UK exposed. We need a developed and resilient industrial strategy to ensure we can withstand future shocks.



The Manufacturing
Sector employs over

2.6m

People in the UK



Ineffective Support and Short-Term Thinking

Too often, we've seen government support programs that offer low-yielding grants or consultancy services that benefit only a few companies rather than the industry as a whole. This short-term thinking fails to address the larger systemic issues facing UK manufacturing.

Made in Group isn't looking to profit from this—we're not trying to get elected or sell consultancy services. Our sole aim is to see the sector thrive because when manufacturing thrives, so does the UK.



Join our #BackingBritain Campaign

Our #BackingBritain Campaign is a crucial step towards securing the future of UK manufacturing. By advocating for the appointment of a Minister for Manufacturing, we are laying the foundation for a more resilient and prosperous Britain. This isn't about politics as usual; it's about ensuring that those making decisions understand the full impact of their policies.

We urge you to join us in this endeavour by:

1. **Signing our open letter to the Prime Minister, calling for the appointment of a Minister for Manufacturing with practical industry experience**
2. **Sharing our campaign on social media by using the hashtag #BackingBritain**
3. **Contacting your local MP and urging them to support our campaign and prioritise the future of UK manufacturing.**

Together, let's ensure that our manufacturing sector receives the recognition, leadership and support it deserves.

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We're
#BackingBritain.
Will you?



Reshaping British Industry: a **United** Push for Growth

Amid a surge in calls for greater investment in British industry, the Made in Group will be lobbying Westminster. Led by a chairman with a strong voice in the House of Lords, the group advocates for its members, ensuring their concerns are heard at the highest levels.

The Made in Group's discussions with government officials last year highlighted their ambitious request for £100 billion in investment. Pitt stressed moving beyond token grants towards impactful funding.

Despite challenges, manufacturing businesses remain optimistic. The Made in Group's Manufacturing Growth Report reveals that **74%** of businesses experienced growth, with **54%** seeing rates of **10%** or higher. However, firms facing contraction have tripled to **12%**, highlighting the need for strategic agility.

Looking ahead, **92%** of companies forecast expansion, with **36%** expecting growth of **20%** or more.

While reshoring interest has dropped, there is still a push for local supply chains and strategic outsourcing. Manufacturers are balancing competitiveness with absorbing cost pressures, as evidenced by a decrease in passing on costs to customers.



Effective risk management is crucial, with **63%** of industrial directors prioritising regular assessments. Succession planning is also key, as many employees near retirement. Less than a third of companies have well-established practices, though **77%** have identified successors informally.

Minister for Manufacturing

The Made in Group continues to champion the manufacturing sector, recognizing its vital role in the UK economy. Despite uncertainties, the industry invests in stability and future growth, showcasing resilience and innovation. By prioritising risk management and succession planning, the sector can overcome obstacles and drive progress.

The Made in Group calls for a cross party Minister for Manufacturing who can pragmatically help deliver an effective industrial strategy and immediately protect UK interests at a time of global conflict.

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Recent statistics have shown that nearly 20% of the current engineering workforce within the UK is set to be retired by 2026.

So how do we tackle this problem?

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This statistic means that around 500,000 of the most experienced and skilled engineers, technicians, operators and leaders leave the industry in 36 months. This is a worrying premise, especially when you consider the makeup of the industrial workforce.

Within UK manufacturing, most workers are over 40 years of age, with the average age being 52. The majority of apprentices are aged between 16 and 24, which leaves a sizable gap in the middle. This is the group that typically provides team leaders, supervisors, department heads and managers but it has effectively been hollowed out in recent years.

Ultimately, organisations within the UK industry need to take responsibility and work together to help solve this problem, close the skills gap, and encourage the next generation of talented workers to take up a career within this fantastic sector.

To help in addressing this challenge, organisations such as Made in Group are working to promote the industry and showcase the opportunities available in manufacturing. Made in Group, composed of Made in the Midlands and Made in Yorkshire, helps manufacturing companies with their recruitment efforts by connecting them with potential employees and providing training and development opportunities for existing staff.

Made Futures is an initiative that was established by Made in Group to promote the manufacturing industry and address the skills gap. This initiative is designed to inspire young people to consider a career in manufacturing by providing them with information about the industry and the opportunities available. Through the innovative digital platform which Made in Group have developed, both Midlands and Yorkshire members can easily

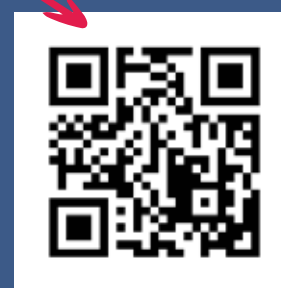
post all of their job vacancies onto the Made Futures jobs board. From there, these vacancies are shared out to Made in Group's network of thousands, including through high-traffic website pages and popular social media platforms.

The Manufacturing sector is a strategic sector of the UK, it creates prosperity, employment opportunities for a wide range of society and is an economic powerhouse that also ensures national security and resilience.

A Minister for Manufacturing and industrial strategy could help the UK gain a competitive advantage and meet the demographic challenge. This could include strategic skills acquisition on the international market, a greater focus on practical skills as an alternative to University and capital investment into automation and AI.

1 in 5 Engineers will be retired by 2026

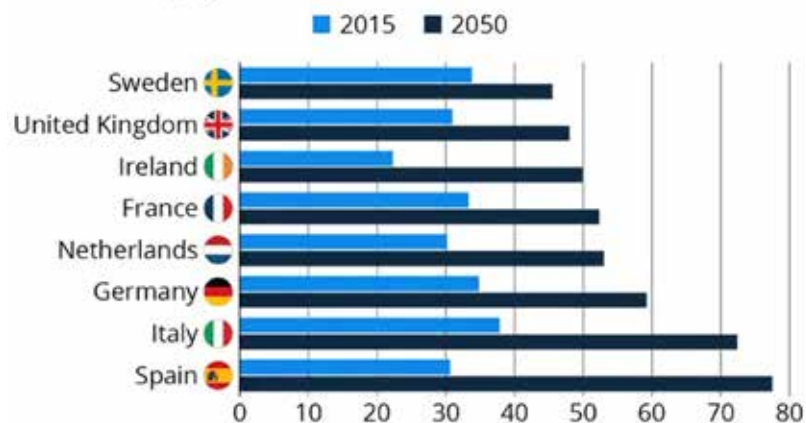
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Europe's Old Age Dependency Ratio

Number of people aged 65+ per 100 people of working age in selected EU countries*



* 2050 value is the OECD's forecast.
Individuals of working age defined as those between 20 and 64.
Source: OECD





Our mission is straightforward yet profound: to bolster the UK's manufacturing capabilities and ensure its sustained growth. Our current platforms, Made in the Midlands and Made in Yorkshire, exemplify our commitment to this vision. We're actively expanding into new regions, and we invite ambitious individuals to contact us if they are interested in spearheading a region of their own.

At Made in Group, we are more than just an association; we are a dynamic entrepreneurial business focused on uniting manufacturers to exchange and cultivate best practices. Our core topics include:

- **People and Skills:** Ensuring a skilled workforce for the future.
- **Sustainability:** Promoting environmentally responsible manufacturing.
- **Smart Factories:** Advancing technology-driven production.
- **Growth Strategies:** Driving business expansion and innovation.

We host a variety of events both virtually and in-person through factory visits, providing invaluable opportunities for our members to connect, share insights, and foster collaboration. Our digital platform serves as a hub where members can communicate, publish content, register for events, and access a rich archive of past best practice talks.

we are working
for **ALL**
67M
people of the UK

The UK manufacturing base remains a cornerstone of our national success. Despite its reduced size, the sector employs 2.6 million people, with many more livelihoods indirectly reliant on its health.

Made in Group emphatically asserts that allowing the manufacturing sector to decline further would jeopardise the nation's stability and prosperity.

To attract and engage a younger demographic, we offer a range of marques and employer toolkits designed to highlight the sector's appeal and potential.

Jason Pitt, Made in Group, states, "It's taken many years, but people are finally recognising the sector's critical importance and its substantial economic contribution."

While Made in Group is not a lobbying organisation, we serve as a best practice network.

We do, however, facilitate an annual visit to Parliament to give members an opportunity to voice concerns they may have.

Join our movement. Contact us via our website madeingroup.com. Together, we can secure the future of UK manufacturing.



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pledge**





MADE IN
GROUP



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What Does The Made in Group Do?

Made in Group is an innovative collective of regional membership associations dedicated to championing the UK manufacturing sector.



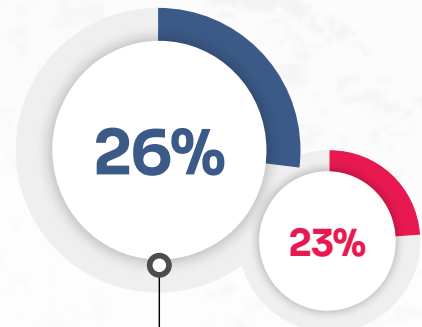
Promote good news from the Sector to boost positivity



Events for Growth & Best Practice



Online Events



Develop new routes to market

Market Intelligence

we are working for

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