

PRESS RELEASE HLI83

Bright future for Hi-line Industries following acquisition by Ingersoll Rand

Hi-line Industries, a UK-based leader in the design, manufacture and installation of energy-efficient compressed air purification equipment, is announcing its acquisition by US multinational Ingersoll Rand. Important to note is the assurance of complete customer continuity. Hi-line will continue to build and sell all of its products with no price increases. Steve Smith will also remain as Managing Director to maintain the next-day delivery expectations of customers.

The acquisition, effective from 1 July 2024, marks the start of a new and exciting chapter in the history of Hi-line as a progressive UK manufacturing business. It follows 12 months of intensive negotiations and due diligence. With Steve Smith as the sole owner of Hi-line, funding was always going to be the issue in reaching the next level. Now, with the backing of Ingersoll Rand's financial might, the Burton-upon-Trent based company can grow quickly to become the market's number one in compressed air treatment solutions.

To celebrate the bright future that the acquisition promises, Hi-line staged a launch day in July at nearby St George's Park, home of the Football Association's national football centre. The football analogy is quite pertinent.

"At the launch day I explained to our staff that the acquisition by Ingersoll Rand was akin to a wealthy investor buying a football club," says Steve Smith. "The investor recognises potential in the team, invests in the purchase of the club, and provides funding to buy players and grow."

Among the first results of the Ingersoll Rand investment will be the addition of Industry 4.1 IoT capabilities to all Hi-line controllers by the end of 2024. Another change will see Ingersoll Rand companies gain access to Hi-line's highly popular range of alternative filter elements and its coveted series of Hi-PLEX dual technology dryer skids (fridge and desiccant on the same skid).

"What will not change is our outstanding level of customer service," states Steve Smith. "Headed up by Craig Watson and Oliver Loewenbach, these guys work tirelessly to support our distributors. In fact, we are looking to grow our ACRIB-registered team of service technicians via a new recruitment drive that will deliver even more support for our broad product range."

Energy-efficient compressed air equipment available from Hi-line includes desiccant and refrigeration air dryers, nitrogen/oxygen separators, filtration equipment, and condensate systems. A five-year warranty reflects Hi-line's confidence in its high-quality workmanship and materials. Supplying both standard and bespoke solutions, the company serves customers in sectors that include food and beverage, medical, general manufacturing, automotive, breathing air, and laser cutting to list but a few. The company is a member of the British Compressed Air Society and carries accreditation to the ISO 9001:2015 quality management standard.

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