

Co-operative Financial Services



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News Release

YOUNG MD STORES UP SUCCESS

One of Lancashire's youngest managing directors has secured the future of his business in Leyland with the help of funding from The Co-operative Bank.

At just 24 years old, Rob Jones has purchased the site of his firm Bison Self Store thanks to a £350K package from The Bank's Lancashire Corporate Banking Centre in Preston.

Bison Self Store provides storage units ranging from 25 sq ft to 200 sq ft for both commercial and private users at Leyland's Moss Side Industrial Estate. Uses include covering house moves, holding business stock for internet companies and business archiving.

Since taking over the family business a year ago, Rob has grown the company considerably, with Bison now providing 120 units – up from 32 last May. Rob also employs three staff and has just opened a second Bison site in Chorley.

Rob said: "I took over the family business in March 2007 and immediately reviewed the service we offer customers, removing any minimum or maximum tied-in contracts. We do not insist on any form of notice period, and have actually found that this keeps customers with us longer – especially private individuals moving house, which can be a long, drawn out, process.

“Once I had expanded the number of units we held on site, purchasing the building was an important step, providing security both for Bison and our customers. Gerald and his team at The Co-operative Bank have been a fantastic help, providing vital advice across all areas of the business – as well as structuring this deal.”

Gerald Waterfield, senior corporate manager at The Bank’s Lancashire Corporate Banking Centre, said: “Rob has made a great impact on Bison and it has been a pleasure to be involved with such a young, dynamic, business-minded individual. The company is now secure, and we look forward to continuing our relationship with Rob as he expands his business further.”

The Co-operative Bank’s Lancashire Corporate Banking Centre provides banking services for SMEs and MEs within the mid corporate market including acquisitions, refinancing and property transactions. The business development managers focus on generating new to Bank corporate businesses with turnovers of between £1m and £50m.

Anyone wishing to talk to Gerald Waterfield at The Co-operative Bank’s Lancashire Corporate Banking Centre should call 01772 556 691.

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