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Engaging with businesses in the Midlands

As the traditional epicentre of automotive manufacturing in the UK, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce is one of the oldest and largest groups of businesses operating within the UK today.

The Nottingham and Derbyshire Chambers host the likes of Toyota and Rolls-Royce (the UK's leading aerospace engineering company), plus a myriad of other manufacturing companies.

The membership to these Chambers provides Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive the opportunity to network, share best practice and learn from a diverse collection of manufacturing companies operating across a number of sectors.

With over 8,000 company members within both Chamber's the opportunity to share ideas, knowledge and keep up-to-date with sector trends and industry breakthroughs in manufacturing is tremendous.

As key areas of the automotive industry continue to grow within these regions, it is essential that Rudolph and Hellmann position themselves to



learn what's working and why. Because we need to continually challenge the status quo and seek better ways in a constant drive to innovate current manufacturing processes to get more efficient and become more effective. This means we can support the automotive industry's ever changing needs, with robust, sustainable and dynamic logistics solutions within either an 'on' or 'off-site' requirement.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/engaging_with_businesses

Supply Chain Consultation	Process Implementation	Contract Logistics	FREE Supply Chain Audit & Healthcheck
<p>Discreetly assess your inbound and outbound supply chain and submit a detailed report on the areas you can improve and save money.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discreet Assessment Full Logistics Audit Process Mapping Process Re-Engineering Process Development Error Proofing Tender Specification Creation 	<p>Set-up your inbound and outbound supply chain to maximise efficiency, recruit and train your people and step away when everything is working.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation and Evaluation Recruitment and Implementation Spot Audits and Support 	<p>Provide you with a complete out sourced cost centre operating to your SLA and KPI's.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed Term Contracts – from months to years depending upon your requirements Rolling Contracts – should you wish to continue a fixed term contract but not wish to enter into another fixed term contract Project Based Contracts – if you have a specific, defined project that you would like us to work on 	<p>Our FREE 'on site logistics' audit – carried out under a non-disclosure agreement anywhere in mainland UK. Drive out excess cost and inefficiency from your manufacturing supply chain through better processes, systems and training. Our findings will be reported in full confidence and will provide a detailed analysis of where savings and improvements can be made.</p> <p>To find out more call us on 01543 441670</p>

Spot Light On...



Jimmy Hamilton Senior Operations Manager

When did you start working for with Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive and what motivated you to join? I started working for Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive in May 2001 because I could see there were lots of opportunities to develop my career and realise my full potential.

What previous logistics and automotive experience do you have? Seven years in logistics, including a mix of managerial and operational experience with another third party logistics provider before joining Rudolph and Hellmann ten years ago.

How do you feel your experience in the automotive industry helps you to help customers deliver their requirements on a day-to-day basis? The automotive sector is probably the most challenging in the world to work within, understanding the challenges customer's face; I can fully appreciate why they require absolute flexibility, dynamic solutions and world-class performance 24/7.

What do you enjoy most about your job with Rudolph and Hellmann? Every day brings something different!

Where's the most interesting automotive production location you have visited and why? Plant Oxford (BMW MINI) because I am still taken aback by the various automated manufacturing processes and the constant drive for innovation – it really is impressive!

Hobbies and Pastimes? I have successfully completed a number of half-marathons, 10k races and also the London Marathon. I find running helps me keep a clear focused mind.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/jimmy_hamilton

Automotive PRODUCTION LOGISTICS



Quarterly newsletter from Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive

Autumn 2011

The only providers of dedicated on-site production and reverse logistics for the automotive sector in the UK

Logistics Leaders Congress

A key event in the UK automotive logistics leaders calendar and sponsored by Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive

This highly regarded event provided an exclusive forum to debate the real challenges faced in vehicle production forecasting; how to create optimal flexibility within the inbound supply chain, it also reviewed the latest IT solutions and, specifically, how they can help simplify logistics planning and make operational processes more robust.

... fellow logistics professionals, automotive manufacturers and related industry specialists. Keeping up to date with the latest industry developments, trends and expectations helps us maintain our position of industry leaders within the automotive logistics sector."

Martin Rollings, Managing Director, Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive

The event was hosted at the Belfry on the 21st and 22nd of June, it was attended by over 150 automotive and logistics professionals, 23 OEM automotive manufacturers and over 14 other industry related companies.

The event is designed to provide a forum where high-profile automotive logistics professionals can network, exchange information and explore ideas. It allows the management teams of industry leaders to keep up to date with the latest developments, trends and expectations in the automotive logistics arena.

"As sponsors of the event the Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive directors and senior management team were able to share their expertise and insights with

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/logistics_leaders_congress



How a fresh pair of eyes can see what you miss Logistics health-check reveals ways to reduce costs and increase efficiency

If you could have a team of logistics experts to assess your entire inbound, product line interface, outbound and reverse logistics processes at ZERO cost, you'd be looking for a catch, right?

When a renowned 1st tier automotive supplier responded to this offer, they too were a little sceptical until they got the results. Concerned their current logistics operation may not be robust enough to handle a potential increase in OEM demand, they called Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive's specialist project team 'COST' to carry out a free audit and logistics health-check.



Utilising a detailed audit framework, the team conducted a 360° assessment designed to thoroughly evaluate the application of current processes, plant, IT systems and employees carrying out the physical logistics activity.

Once the on-site audit was complete findings were analysed, and the COST team compiled a detailed report, the subsequent presentation highlighted key areas where proposed improvements could be made.

No catch, no cost, just a fresh pair of expert eyes to help our customer's suppliers improve their logistics processes and redundancy. Why? Well, if you supply into one of Rudolph and Hellmann's customers, making you more effective helps us provide a better service.

For more details regarding the FREE Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive on-site logistics and internal supply chain health check visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/contact-us/free-on-site-logistics-audit

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/fresh_pair_of_eyes



Strategic supply chain changes to support dramatic growth in sales



When an automotive manufacturer launches a new model it is always an exciting time within the industry. Even more so when the sales surpass all expectations. But with growth in sales comes the logistical challenges associated with supporting increased manufacturing output.

Because of this Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive management were appointed to become a key consultation party in the assessment, strategic review and testing of a revised on-site manufacturing process for a leading automotive manufacturer.

Working alongside the customer, the first task was to understand the OEM's planned manufacturing process changes. Then understand how the planned efficiencies would impact on the existing manufacturing and logistics structures in place.

The OEM's project team conducted off-line build trails, which involved 'out of production' build simulations, to analyse production operative times. Then establish the robustness of the re-designed build processes and the overall feasibility of the concept.

"Getting Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive involved in projects like this at an early stage allow the automotive manufacturer to robustly test the proposed faster build techniques and its impact throughout the supply chain. The result is reduced risk and, ultimately, delivery of a more effective solution, in less time and at less cost."

Mark Cranidge, Operations Director, Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/strategic_supply_chain_changes

Pick to Light improves Right First Time



Pick to Light (or PTL) order picking systems use light indicator modules mounted to shelving, pallet racking or other storage locations.

Whenever a product is needed from a particular location, the relevant indicator is automatically turned on, drawing attention where action is required. The operator then picks the product as displayed or instructed, confirming the pick by pressing a lighted button or trigger system.

As with any process change implemented by the Rudolph and Hellmann Projects team, an initial project trial and plan was scoped to provide a robust audit of the changes in performance.

After designing an efficient and logical picking process and sequence the selected PTL software, hardware and storage methodology was implemented.

The trial of the new picking process was conducted in a real-time environment, utilising the older picking process as back up. The overall benefits saw increased efficiency, improved picking accuracy and the potential removal of a secondary inspection process.

Within a month all associated picking activity for the one product type had been completely transferred to the new PTL process.

Based upon the success of this implementation of 'PTL' Rudolph and Hellmann, in partnership with the OEM customer, are now planning to roll-out the application of this new technology within other areas of their logistics operation.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/pick_to_light

Innovative on-site transportation solution reduces spiralling fuel costs



Articulated LGV vehicles and 40ft trailers were used to shunt large quantities of material and empty containers between a number of manufacturing buildings and cells on plant.

Although the process was effective, allowing the shipment of large quantities of material at a time, the increasing price of fuel and the requirement of multiple MHE units on plant to load and off-load material at the point of delivery, prompted the requirement to investigate an alternative solution.

Working in partnership with their MHE provider, Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive looked outside the box to explore a variety of options.

This fresh approach resulted in an alternative, faster, delivery route, which allows the use of outside MHE, to effectively tow a number of material containers on outside use trolleys.

This revised solution also utilises conventional Material Handling Forks to load and unload containers into the required delivery points. With no expensive LGV equipment there was an immediate saving presented to the customer. On top of this, the MHE equipment utilised on-plant became more efficiently utilised and contributed to a reduction of MHE equipment across the site, as well as giving a dynamic and flexible solution.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/innovative_on-site_transportation_solution

Barcode scan technology improves fit-point delivery accuracy



Delivering the correct part or kit, in the correct quantity, in the correct sequence at the right time is critical if you want to avoid production stoppages. Thus this naturally forms one of the key operational KPI's.

To increase efficiency and delivery accuracy within this part of the operation is difficult to achieve because, by its very nature, it has to be as close to perfect as possible.

Working alongside the manufacturer's technology team, Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive dedicate a project team to investigate and design a better system. The result is a new robust process utilising barcode and RF scanner technology, designed to optimise the final delivery accuracy of 'single part-type to fit-point location.'

After four weeks of assessing the benefits of this new process, making minor improvements here and there has delivered a significant improvement in fit-point delivery performance and an overall reduction in process time.

The revised process now begins with an operative scanning an identification label on the part/kit, then scanning a newly implemented label and barcode at fit-point. This provides immediate confirmation that the correct part has arrived at the correct time in the correct quantity.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/barcode_scan_technology

IOSH Safeguards against potential Health & Safety risks



The risks faced by those working within the fast paced environment of logistics and warehousing are considerable.

As an employer it's our responsibility to ensure the relevant skills, knowledge and all employees adhere to safe working practices. As a supplier, we need to provide customers with the assurance that we take every measure to mitigate unnecessary diversions and interruptions to the manufacturing process.

As customer's requirements often change within short timescales it is imperative that key members of management have the skills to both revise on-site logistics processes and ensure staff work safely to minimise accidents and damage. This is why Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive's management and supervisor level employees attended the IOSH (Institute Of Safety and Health) 'Managing Safety' course.

The whole model supports all of Rudolph and Hellmann's commitment to quality logistics service provision alongside its customer's ever-changing production requirements and commitment to ensure its employees are working to take responsibility for health & safety in the working environment.

For the full case study visit www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/iosh_safeguards



How 'Very Narrow Aisles' help increase throughput

The new racking configuration was implemented to increase volume throughput of an existing process which involved the 'putaway and picking' of small parts material into an automated storage system.

Supporting the receipt, storage and delivery of 'medium' size parts into the OEM's manufacturing plant.

Increased production demand led to a review of all related logistics and supply chain processes. This resulted in the identification of a number

of practical improvements to utilise the space available by optimising logistic processes to increase manufacturing capacity.

It was critical that any changes to the existing logistics service were uninterrupted during the changeover and the manufacturing operation was not compromised.

Careful planning meant the implementation of the project went seamlessly, with the manufacturing process completely undisturbed throughout the installation and crossover period.

www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/very_narrow_aisles

Robust training and development process provides financial clarity and flexibility

"Commitment to the professional development of all employees is key to providing our customers with a great service. Engaging the hearts and minds of employees ensures we have a motivated workforce with a 'can do' attitude. But it's not just the frontline operational team who impact on our end customer's bottom line. This is why increasing the quality of service and capability of our finance team is paramount."

Jeff Hyde, Finance Director, Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive

The AAT is one of the UK's leading professional accountancy bodies and being accredited means Rudolph and Hellmann Automotive finance team have practical, skills based accounting qualifications. This supports Rudolph and Hellmann's ethos of delivering both financial clarity and flexibility to external customers and provides in depth quality within our internal structure.



www.rh-automotive.co.uk/news-and-case-studies/robust_training_and_development_process