

Manufacturers make a huge contribution to the economy in the Sheffield City Region

Welcome to the first ever comprehensive list showing the Top 50 SMEs operating in the manufacturing sector across the Sheffield City Region.

There's absolutely no doubt that these companies make a hugely valuable contribution to the economy throughout the Sheffield City Region. Between them they directly employ 6,807 people, which is up from 6,298 on the previous year, and have a combined turnover of more than £810 million. This has grown by more than £54 million from the year before.

Crucially, profits before tax are also increasing too, and stand at just over £66 million, compared to almost £58 million in the previous year. There's no denying this growth is impressive, especially when you remind yourself that this is a list of SMEs, which are businesses with less than 250 employees.

Heading the table is Barnsley based furniture manufacturer Silkstone Finance Limited, the parent company of Ultima Furniture Systems, which posted a remarkable set of figures which saw turnover rise by 37% to just over £25 million. Impressively, the company has more than doubled its pre-tax profits in the same period to £4.37 million, as well as creating 44 new jobs.

Another Barnsley based company that stands out for its solid growth figures, is Compass Engineering, which sits at number 16 in the table. The family owned structural steelwork fabrication company was formed in 1985 and specialises in the design, build and manufacture of all types of steel structures.

The company's products are used in a huge range of commercial buildings throughout the UK and turnover at the end of 2015 stood at £18.7 million, which

was up from just over £12 million the year before – an increase of 55%. The company's pre-tax profits have also risen at a notable rate, climbing to £2.253 million from £1.592 million.

It's clear from this table that the majority of manufacturers in the Sheffield City Region are performing well, with the vast majority experiencing good levels of growth in recent years. It remains to be seen what impact Brexit will have on this, but as with anything in business, there are likely to be winners and losers.

The challenge for companies in our region is to protect themselves from the potential risks this could present, whilst ensuring they can capitalise on the opportunities that arise from change.



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The future of manufacturing in Sheffield City Region

There's certainly a lot of conflicting messages in the media about what's happening within the sector. Data from the Office for National Statistics revealed that British manufacturing production fell sharply in July, which was the first full month after Britain voted to leave the EU.

According to the official figures, manufacturing production, a measure of how much British factories are making, fell by 0.9% compared to June, which was more than double the 0.4% drop that had been predicted by economists. However, on an annual basis, manufacturing production still grew by 0.8%, although this was substantially below the 1.7% that was initially forecast.

We've also heard recently from The Confederation of British Industry that UK manufacturers are receiving more overseas orders than at any point since August 2014. The fall in sterling is helping to bolster export orders further, although the downside of this means it's more expensive to import materials, so many manufacturers are finding themselves facing a tricky balancing act. However, this is nothing new for those that regularly operate in overseas markets.

In addition, the new Prime Minister Theresa May is making announcements

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Top 50 Manufact

2016	Company name	Activity
1	Silkstone Finance Limited	Manufacture of furniture systems
2	Breasley Pillows Limited(The)	Foam conversion and the manufacture of bedding
3	Moorhen Holdings Limited	Roofing and cladding material manufacturers and distributors and property trading and investment
4	Melett Limited	Development, manufacture and supply of turbocharger repair parts
5	Capital Refractories Limited	Manufacture and sale of refractory materials, ceramic cores and related products
6	C.W.Fletcher & Sons,Limited	The manufacture of precision components mainly for the aeronautical and nuclear industries
7	Jigsaw Foods Limited	Manufacture and cryogenic freezing of sauces and condiments
8	Griffingold Limited	Upvc window manufacture
9	Robinson Healthcare Group Limited	Manufacture, marketing and distribution of personal hygiene, healthcare and veterinary products and medical devices
10	A.T.C. Manufacturing Limited	The manufacture, processing and distribution of textile products
11	Hamsard 3120 Limited	Manufacture and sale of cable management systems
12	SCX Limited	Design, manufacture and maintenance of materials handling and access equipment
13	Libra Speciality Chemicals Limited	The manufacture and distribution of chemical products
14	IFA Metals International Limited	Manufacture of high integrity forged products
15	Novoferm UK Holdings Limited	Manufacture and sale of garage doors
16	Compass Engineering Holdings Limited	Structural engineers
17	OSL Group Holdings Limited	Manufacture of components and services in the markets of fire and security
18	Cathelco Limited	lccp and anti-fouling equipment for the marine industry through its' engineering and the manufacture & supply of process control equipment
19	Whirlowdale Trading Company Limited	Manufacture, repair and distribution of pallets,packing cases,doors and other wood related products
20	Direct Trade (Yorkshire) Limited	Manufacture and distribution of UPVC window frames, doors and conservatories
21	Drishaun Holdings Limited	Manufacture and assembly of electrical enclosures and the supply of industry sensing products
22	John Smedley Limited	The manufacture and sale of knitwear
23	Sash (UK) Holdings Limited	Manufacture of pvc-u doors and windows
24	TGW (Holdings) Limited	Machine knife manufacturers and factors
25	Nenplas Holdings Limited	Manufacture and distribution of extruded plastic products
26	Thos.Winnard & Sons Limited	The distribution of vehicle components
27	David Nieper Limited	The manufacture and sale of lingerie
28	Birley Manufacturing Limited	The manufacture and fit out of interior solutions
29	Carlton Main Brickworks Limited	The manufacture and sale of bricks
30	Massey Truck Engineering Limited	The manufacture and repair of commercial vehicle bodies
31	Charles Thompson (UK) Limited	Design and manufacture of process plant equipment, general engineers and fabricators
32	Europa Engineering Group Limited	Operation of lifting materials and mechanical handling. structural fabrication and general engineering activities
33	Flowflex Holdings Limited	Manufacture and distribution of brass and copper fittings for the plumbing industry
34	Charapak Speciality Packaging Limited	Manufacture and sale of printed, die-cut, corrugated packaging, silicon based packaging, bakery packaging materials and point of purchase displays
35	Jepson Holdings Limited	Manufacture of vehicle number plates and signs
36	Rotor Clip Limited	Supply of retaining rings
37	Mccalls Special Products Limited	Design and manufacture of high strength bars and fittings
38	Wolf Safety Lamp Company Limited(The)	Manufacture and sale of safety lamps
39	Icon Aerospace Technology Ltd	The manufacture and sale of natural and synthetic elastomeric polymer components and rubber-proofed fabrics for industrial applications
40	Pinelog Group Limited	A group engaged in the manufacture of timber leisure buildings and the ownership and operation of a holiday letting business
41	Advanced Engineering Techniques Limited	Laser engineers, component producer and fabricator
42	Metalliform Holdings Limited	Manufacture and sale of educational and office furniture and spectator seating
43	Teampartner Limited	Production and sale of popcorn and confectionery items
44	Geo. Robson & CO. (Conveyors) Limited	Design, manufacture and installation of specialised material handling plant and steel fabrications together with machining and pipework
45	Emsc Global Limited	Design, manufacture and sale of energy saving products
46	Nenplas Limited	The manufacture and distribution of extruded plastic products
47	Price Thomas Holdings Limited	Manufacture and sale of products to the automotive chemical trade
48	Tinsley Bridge Limited	The manufacture and sale of stabiliser bars for the European truck market
49	Tickhill Engineering Company Limited	The manufacture of agricultural and food processing equipment
50	Furniss And White (Foundries) Limited	The manufacture and sale of castings

Figures compiled by BHP Chartered Accountants using latest published financial information at the time of carrying out this survey filed at Companies House and financial data provided by Bureau van Dijk's Fame. To qualify for inclusion, businesses must: • be an independent company OR the ultimate holding company of a UK group • be an SME, i.e. meets two of the following measures - less than 250 employees - less than £25.9m turnover per annum - less than £12.9m gross assets • not be a charity, academy, Limited Liability Partnership or listed Public Limited Company • be up-to-date in filing accounts at Companies House • be based in Sheffield City Region • with a manufacturing SIC code listed on FAME

uring SMEs 2016

Location	Latest accounts	Turnover £'000	Profit before Taxation £'000	No. of Employees £'000	Total Assets th GBP Last avail. yr
Barnsley	1/31/2015	25,194	4,377	184	21,764
Matlock	4/30/2015	24,803	466	207	7,710
Chesterfield	6/30/2015	24,054	1,894	50	27,475
Barnsley	5/31/2015	23,181	4,638	127	19,008
Chesterfield	11/30/2014	22,967	1,647	202	13,330
Sheffield	12/31/2014	22,297	[97]	209	15,035
Mansfield	5/31/2015	21,801	1,320	139	7,589
Sheffield	12/31/2015	21,708	2,680	205	6,782
Worksop	6/30/2015	21,308	2,297	168	12,520
Barnsley	12/31/2015	20,237	1,155	205	33,539
Rotherham	12/31/2014	19,776	2,306	161	13,589
Sheffield	3/31/2015	19,678	2,380	131	15,505
Sheffield	12/31/2014	19,222	2,127	44	11,825
Sheffield	3/31/2015	19,164	99	122	12,296
Sheffield	12/31/2014	18,946	[477]	248	10,317
Barnsley	12/31/2015	18,737	2,253	59	22,705
Sheffield	12/31/2015	18,289	1,456	158	8,344
Chesterfield	3/31/2015	18,279	3,110	106	6,952
Rotherham	3/31/2015	18,124	1,049	90	10,254
Doncaster	3/31/2015	17,739	1,216	168	10,988
Sheffield	12/31/2014	17,653	1,076	99	12,640
Matlock	3/31/2016	15,916	413	354	8,867
Barnsley	9/25/2015	15,658	1,030	183	15,439
Sheffield	3/31/2015	15,526	927	176	10,964
Ashbourne	5/31/2015	15,252	1,747	138	11,596
Rotherham	12/31/2014	14,837	2,333	34	11,512
Matlock	3/31/2015	14,764	1,393	243	8,701
Sheffield	12/31/2015	14,752	1,499	93	6,841
Barnsley	3/31/2015	14,322	2,814	69	13,309
Sheffield	9/30/2015	14,218	1,139	116	7,815
Mexborough	3/31/2015	14,134	[892]	197	15,534
Sheffield	3/31/2015	14,083	1,804	127	10,110
Buxton	3/31/2015	13,775	1,149	88	8,921
Alfreton	12/31/2014	13,281	684	115	4,783
Sheffield	6/30/2015	12,376	1,250	74	13,243
Sheffield	12/31/2014	12,347	84	125	9,957
Sheffield	12/31/2014	12,221	216	85	10,141
Sheffield	6/30/2015	12,217	2,564	39	11,370
Retford	9/30/2015	12,104	1,910	160	9,152
Matlock	11/1/2015	11,834	880	245	12,449
Barnsley	10/31/2015	11,721	790	175	7,371
Barnsley	6/30/2015	11,604	374	142	4,719
Worksop	12/31/2014	11,448	707	72	5,352
Sheffield	6/29/2015	11,414	[2,064]	162	10,886
Sheffield	5/31/2015	11,400	1,642	83	9,913
Ashbourne	5/31/2015	11,380	2,251	100	10,552
Rotherham	12/31/2015	11,304	1,540	41	5,737
Sheffield	9/30/2015	11,152	[298]	103	7,563
Doncaster	12/31/2014	10,997	614	58	10,981
Sheffield	3/31/2015	10,991	741	128	5,863

For financial periods of more than or fewer than 52 weeks, the figures have been annualised on a pro-rata basis. Private company information can be incomplete: in preparing this table every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that no qualifying companies have been omitted. In certain circumstances the compilers of the table have made exceptions to the qualification criteria and their decision is final. Nominations for next year's table are welcome at info@bhp.co.uk.

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Manufacturers can't afford to miss R&D tax breaks

By its very nature manufacturing is a very capital intensive business, and as a result, approximately 70% of all the UK's research and development (R&D) investment comes from manufacturers.

However, vast numbers of manufacturers are still failing to take advantage of the generous tax breaks that are available and we regularly see companies only claiming back a fraction of what's actually available to them. Sometimes businesses have preconceptions that they 'don't do' R&D, or that it's such a small investment that it's not worth making a claim, but often it's surprising how much a claim can be worth.

The tax relief is available across all types of initiatives including patents, new manufacturing processes, environmental improvements, software development and product development. It can cover the costs of staff working on R&D projects, expenses relating to materials and equipment as well as costs for subcontractors that have assisted with such projects. Even R&D projects that have been unsuccessful are eligible for the relief.

Since the incentive was first introduced in 2000, the rates have gradually become more generous and are now worth up to 230% for SMEs. This means that for each £100 of qualifying costs, the corporation tax paid by SMEs on income could be cut by a further £26.

Another big incentive for manufacturers is the annual investment allowance (AIA) which is a tax relief to support businesses investing in plant and machinery. Since 2008 the rate of this relief has changed four times, which has only served to complicate matters.

The most recent change means that from the start of the year, AIA came down from £500,000 to £200,000. This means that if a business buys a piece of equipment, that qualifies for AIA, 100% of the cost of that asset, up to £200,000, can be deducted from the company's profit before working out how much tax it has

to pay. This can obviously make a big difference to a company's tax bill.

Often companies can take advantage of both R&D relief and AIA without even realising it, over the last year BHP has agreed tax repayments of over £1,100,000 with HMRC on behalf of our clients. So it is worth checking to see if you can save some money as well.



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The future of manufacturing in Sheffield City Region (continued)

Since the EU Referendum, all eyes have been on the UK's manufacturing sector to see how it will react to the Brexit decision.

that could have a positive impact on both the Sheffield City Region, as well as its manufacturing industry as a whole. Since coming into Number 10, she has openly backed the development of the Northern Powerhouse and highlighted that the Sheffield City Region has agreed a devolution deal with Whitehall, and will vote for a combined authority mayor next May.

The PM also reconfirmed government plans for high speed rail investment, part of which includes the creation of the £6 billion Trans-Pennine tunnel between

Manchester and Sheffield, which could almost halve journey times between the cities and will encourage businesses to invest here.

However, in the short-term, businesses must focus on what's happening within their own four walls, and they must also arm themselves with expert advice, so that they can plan for all eventualities.



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