

Durham workwear firm to create 100 jobs after growth during lockdown

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A Durham firm that supplies work clothing to a range of industries is creating 100 new jobs after taking advantage of a number of opportunities that arose in the pandemic.

Workwear Express – which is based on the Belmont Industrial Estate – has seen a 30% rise in sales over the last 12 months and said it had worked with “some of the UK’s top brands” during the pandemic.

That included contracts for St John Ambulance and the Royal Voluntary Service to provide kit for volunteers and people involved in the UK vaccines programme.

The recruitment drive – which comes after a similar number of jobs were created last March – has seen Workwear Express take on a number of people from the hospitality and travel sectors that have been hard hit by the Covid pandemic.

CEO Steve Curran said: “We are looking forward to onboarding our new recruits. One of our key strengths at Workwear Express is our unique insight into

clients’ needs, coupled with offering the best people and innovative technology.

“We empower each and every one of our Workwear Express colleagues and treat them as individuals with fair compensation, generous benefits and a stimulating environment where they can thrive. We believe that when we care about our employees, they will apply the same level of care to our customers – here at Workwear Express, you’re not just starting a job, you’re starting a career.”

The company was founded in 1990 by Andrew Ward, now chairman, when he was aged just 17.

It has since grown into a leading supplier of workplace clothing and recently invested £3m in a new website and app in a bid to streamline its sales process. The company has a customer base of more than 600,000 clients across 100 different countries and in a range of sectors.

A company spokesman said it was aiming to become “Europe’s most successful customised workwear, PPE and promotional clothing provider”, and was planning to launch in North America this year as part of international expansion plans.

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