



PRESS RELEASE

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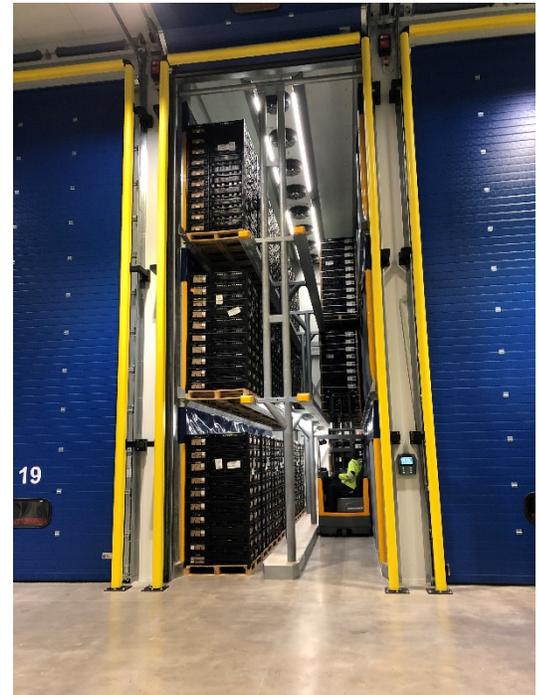
A major, multi-million pound extension to the Evesham facility of fruit importer Primafruit has been unveiled with pride this week. The contractors have handed over the keys and the first fruit has been received into the new zones.

This is another significant investment at Primafruit, designed to support their fast-growing business with retail customer Waitrose & Partners. The two companies enjoy a long term supply contract, with Primafruit now positioned as exclusive supplier on many key fruit products. A phase 1 extension was completed in 2016; growing volumes gave Primafruit and parent company Fresca Group confidence to invest in phase 2. This now brings the entire operating space at Primafruit to over 16,000m².

The new extension specifically enables the company to handle bananas at Evesham for the first time. Triple-decker ripening rooms feature exciting new technology to increase efficiency and control, with sufficient capacity to accommodate ripening for over 750 pallets of produce at any one time. A dedicated banana packing area and expanded intake, outloading and cold storage are also key benefits. In addition, Primafruit are moving all citrus packing into a larger, purpose-built space, with extensive reconfiguring of packing areas continuing over the coming days.

This is the beginning of a very exciting new phase for this Evesham business, coming as they celebrate twenty years of operations on their current site. The company now employs over 350 people and handles sales worth in excess of £130m each year.

Primafruit's Managing Director is Jamie Marskell. Speaking of the new investment Jamie said: "Once again, our team of contractors and staff have worked tirelessly to deliver a complex and detailed build. Their work has meant that



Primafruit can continue to grow long into the future. I'm extremely grateful to all our partners for their support."

Further information about Primafruit is available on request to Judy Whittaker, Communications Manager:

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Jamie Marskell, Managing Director of Primafruit (left) with Tim Espley, Operations Director of Fresca Group.

