

Manufacturing Company of the year Award 2021 sponsored by -

PM PROJEN

PM PROJEN is a multi-disciplined Engineering Design and Project Management business founded in 1978. They work across a range of market sectors for a diverse mix of clients. Their core business involves all elements of the project lifecycle from project inception, right through the detailed design and construction phases. www.projen.co.uk/

WINNER... 2M HOLDINGS LTD

At the outbreak of Covid-19, 2M moved quickly into sanitizer production. "Idea to manufacture in 10 days" was the goal. The company converted a six-acre site into a manufacturing facility. They prepped blending stations to personal care hygiene grade. Within 2 weeks of first production 20,000 bottles had been donated. Requests were fulfilled within 48 hours. A proportion of production was donated to frontline healthcare workers and other emergency staff, but also to schools for teachers, Royal Mail staff, care homes and people working in food banks. 2M explained the project enhanced Group capabilities and that new manufacturing facilities had been created. An amazing effort from a company that had not previously manufactured sanitizer. "Chemistry is more than just an industry, it's fundamental in saving lives." www.2m-holdings.com

HIGHLY COMMENDED – Libra Speciality Chemicals Limited

2020/21 had seen record production, up +30% output year on year for Libra. Libra manufactured 5,000 tonnes of hand sanitiser for the UK Government and the wider market with new plant investment leading to increased capacity. Libra has always prided itself on its responsiveness, reliability and sharp customer focus. Base cleaning chemicals are part of Libra's core business. Their newly invested Betaine plants produced 10,000 tonnes from a standing start in 2019/20. Libra also enjoy an excellent site safety record with the manufacturing site having zero waste streams and right first-time quality levels exceeding 95%. Record total production volumes were achieved across all production not just sanitizer and in a very challenging year. Further site investment is scheduled for 2021 including new tanker loading and increased reactor capacity. The focus for Libra going forward is greater supply in UK where site manufacturing volume could grow a further 40%. Growth already contracted into 2021 will deliver another very positive year for the company. <https://librachem.co.uk>



Innovation Award 2021 sponsored by -



HFL Consulting is now part of SLR; a global leader in environmental and advisory solutions. Together, they provide world-class solutions and advice to their clients, cementing over 20 years of specialist process safety knowledge and experience, to a bigger, expanded service offering. www.slrconsulting.com

WINNER... Bitrez Limited

Bitrez Ltd is one of the UK's leading manufacturers of specialist polymers and chemicals, used by world class companies across the globe. Bitrez's winning Curaphen products are phenolic resins employed in the manufacture of specialist coatings and as a resin used in the generation of composites for light weight components. The Bitrez model is driven by regulatory and market demands and a lower carcinogenic impact that modern coatings deliver is warmly welcomed. Bitrez's highly skilled R&D department worked to develop a formula to reduce formaldehyde levels. A brand-new process technique was required alongside extensive research, development, evaluation and trials involving cutting edge/innovative chemistry. The result was a series of Curaphen grades not classified as carcinogenic yet offering performance levels equivalent to conventional grades. The development of Curaphen led to a doubling of capacity requiring 24/7 UK production. Curaphen is a major success for Bitrez and is established as the best-selling Low FF phenolic resin on the market. www.bitrez.com

