

## ALL SETT AT BADGER

With an ever increasing demand for their range of Badger premium bottled beers, Blandford based brewer Hall & Woodhouse are always looking for efficiency and productivity improvements within their warehouse operation. A recent review identified the need to reduce costly and inefficient off site storage and at the same time this produced some bespoke requirements for storage and racking in their warehouse.

Chris Merry, Logistics Manager for Hall & Woodhouse commented "We identified an area within our warehouse where we wanted to store batch produced products, but the reconfiguration and installation of racking was not going to be straightforward. We have been working with Locators Storage Systems for several years and they have configured several installations for us so we were confident that they would be able to provide us with a solution."

Locators proposed a drive in racking system to optimise the available floor space and volume. The system was configured to handle pallets from production which are 1000mm wide and are uncommon in the UK for drive in applications. Careful positioning of the racking footplates was required to ensure they missed the oversize floor expansion joints. In addition an 'I' beam had to be manufactured to spread the load of a footplate which had to be positioned directly over one of the numerous drain covers in the floor. Lane guards and high visibility column guards were also specified to protect the installation from damage by materials handling equipment.

Ben Buckler and Nathan Roach from Locators Storage Systems were involved in the design and project management of the installation. Nathan remarked "Through careful planning, we were able to ensure the project was completed within

the agreed 3 week schedule whilst the warehouse remained fully operational at all times."

Chris added "Our new racking system has had an immediate impact on our operation and has

produced the efficiency gains we were looking for. We are very pleased with the outcome."

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