

Unilever in Leeds

Unilever Leeds' origins date back to the 1830s and to Joseph Watson & Sons, dealers in hides and skins for the leather trade. Making soap from the tallow in the hides led the company into the toiletry industry with the soap works factory they built in Whitehall Road becoming the UK's single largest toiletries manufacturing factory in the mid-1960s. Increasing production in the 1960s prompted the move to purpose built facilities at Seacroft for aerosol manufacturing and by the mid-1980s all Unilever Leeds' operations had relocated there.



Here and Now

Today the Seacroft site is the most important manufacturing site in Europe for deodorants, annually producing more than half a billion aerosol cans and roll-on bottles of such household brands as Lynx, Dove, Sure, Vaseline and Impulse. We are one of the largest employers locally and we actively support community initiatives and local charities.

We continue to invest in our facilities and the latest safety and manufacturing technologies to ensure we remain competitive and to safeguard the future of Unilever in Leeds. Recent developments include new production lines, new warehouse facilities and a repack operation which allows us to tailor our products to our customers' needs and to deliver them directly to them.



Following Regulations

As aerosol manufacturers we are subject to the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) safety regulations 2015. We are classified as an Upper Tier COMAH site due to the quantity of aerosols manufactured and stored on site. We have notified Leeds City Council, The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and the Environment Agency who are responsible for the COMAH regulations which apply to our site. We have sent a formal safety report to the HSE and our activities are subject to a programme of routine inspections as required by the regulations. We are also required to inform our neighbours of any risks.

The Seacroft site holds a number of materials that are classified as 'dangerous substances' under COMAH and we have a legal duty to inform you of these substances and the hazards associated with them.

The hazard classifications and the dangerous substances are:

Flammable aerosols -finished products

Flammable liquids and gases -LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) used to make aerosols spray and ethanol used as part of the mixture in some products

Hazardous to the aquatic environment -perfumes

Petroleum products and alternative fuels -diesel

Further information on the regulations and specific site information including inspections can be obtained from the HSE website at www.hse.gov.uk/comah/guidance

Safety First

Unilever's Seacroft site is one of the safest aerosols manufacturing locations in the world and is an industry leader in safety systems. We have been safely operating in this community since the mid 1980s.

As part of operating this site safely, it is important to identify and assess any potential risk to the people who work here and the general public. These risks are:

- LPG explosion in the tank storage area. This could cause fire and blast damage to the surrounding area.
- Fire and smoke. This could result in smoke damage, respiratory problems as with any fire, damage to nearby buildings.
- Environmental damage caused by contaminated waterways.

In the highly unlikely event of an incident, we have a number of systems to prevent it developing. These include:

LPG explosion:

- Automated water deluge system to cool the storage tanks to prevent explosion.
- Multiple fire and gas detection systems.
- Automated isolation and safety shutdown systems.
- Pressure release and venting system.

Fire & smoke:

- Flame, heat and smoke detection sensors.
- Segregated areas to prevent fire spreading.
- Automated sprinkler and foam systems fed by a dedicated water supply.
- Automated safety shutdown systems.

Environmental damage:

- Spillage collection areas.
- Manual drain cover systems.
- Automated drain closure system and overflow containment areas.
- Trained on-site spillage response team.

All emergency services plus other relevant agencies have tried and tested plans for responding to incidents. As part of its incident management planning, Unilever Leeds regularly takes part in exercises with these organisations and a specific emergency plan has been developed with the emergency services and Leeds City Council to address potential major accident hazards. In addition, we invest heavily in training our employees to ensure that we have a highly skilled emergency management team on site.

Siren call

The site has a community siren to warn neighbouring residents and businesses that there is an emergency which may affect them. This siren will be tested out loud annually so that you know what it sounds like and you will be informed in advance by mail and through public notices when this test will take place. It will also be regularly tested silently.

If you hear the siren, it is critical that you take the actions described in this leaflet and co-operate fully with any instructions or requests from the emergency services.

In the unlikely event of an incident, if you hear the siren simply:

Go in...

Head indoors and close all windows and doors

Stay in...

Remain inside until you are told otherwise by the emergency services

Tune in...

Check BBC Radio Leeds 92.4 95.3 FM or DAB for updated information

Please avoid using your telephones in order to keep the lines clear for emergency use.

A separate siren tone will be used to indicate an all-clear.

You can listen to both the siren tones at our website:

www.unilever.co.uk/safety

School Runs

All schools have plans to cope with local emergencies and teachers and support staff will do all they can to look after the pupils in their charge. In the unlikely event of an incident occurring, tune into local radio for advice and details of arrangements that have been made for parents to collect their children from school.



Please keep this leaflet in a safe place

If you move, please pass this leaflet on to the new occupants

Any comments or questions on this leaflet should be made, in writing, to:

Works Director
Unilever UK Limited
Coal Road, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 2AR
leeds-enquiries@unilever.com

Remember: If you hear the siren
and you haven't been notified of a test:

Go in... Stay in... Tune in...



Introducing
Unilever UK Limited
Leeds

PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and
keep this leaflet
in a safe place



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