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## **PICKERSGILL-KAYE PLAYS HOST TO MINISTERS**

Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd's premises in Leeds was selected by government ministers as the venue to announce a major financial boost for the Yorkshire and Humber region – worth nearly £10 million.

The visit to Pickersgill-Kaye, a leading UK engineering company for over 150 years, by a group of senior ministers and representatives of Yorkshire Forward, was part of a day of activities which included meetings with regional business leaders to discuss the current economic situation.

Chief Secretary of the Treasury Yvette Cooper and Rosie Winterton, Minister for Yorkshire and Humber, took part in the visit along with Tim Riordan, chief executive of Yorkshire Forward.

Guests were given a tour of the Leeds factory, which employs around 70 people, and learnt more about the manufacturing processes the company undertakes to supply the rail and high security industries with locks and other specialist high quality products.

Peter Murphy, Pickersgill-Kaye's managing director, described how recently the company has made a significant impact on the custodial locking industry by extending its products and developing a range of mechanical and electro-mechanical locking solutions for police custody suites, prisons and detention centres.

The government funding comprises £7.2 million for the region's Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) which enables manufacturing businesses to improve their productivity, become more streamlined and access new opportunities. An additional £2.4 million will be spent on supporting the financial and professional services industry in the Yorkshire and Humber region

As a former recipient of MAS funding, Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd, was chosen to host the visit as an example of a business which has succeeded by being open to change and developing efficient working practices. Last month the company announced export orders for 2008 in excess of £1 million, and its domestic order book remains strong.

Commenting after the visit Mr Murphy said: "We are pleased that our success has been recognised nationally and were proud to be chosen to host this high profile visit. Our company typifies the sort of business that can benefit from MAS funding. It is important that there is strong regional support in the current economic climate in order for companies to remain competitive."

**ENDS**

**Background information:**

Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd has built a solid reputation over the past 150 years through the specialist design and manufacture of Kaye's patent door locks for the architectural and railway industries throughout the UK and overseas. More recently, the company has diversified and is now using its expertise to design, supply and maintain high security locks for the UK detention industry.

Operating from premises in Leeds, the company uses state of the art CAD systems linked to advanced CNC engineering facilities, producing high quality, British engineered products to the highest quality standards.

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***For further information or photographs please contact:***

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