



Maintaining a healthy manufacturing sector

The next time you are watching a TV medical drama or documentary, set in a UK hospital, look out for the patient receiving an intravenous (IV) drip. There's a good chance the bag supplying the life saving solution comes from the Baxter manufacturing facility in Thetford. In fact, the NHS uses around 50 'Baxter bags' *every minute of every day* to save and sustain lives.

Baxter has been a global leader in healthcare innovation for over 80 years. Its achievements include the first commercially manufactured IV solutions and the first home dialysis machine. It now employs around 50,000 people worldwide, serving hospitals, clinicians and patients in more than 100 countries.

The company has been committed to the UK, where it employs approximately 1,250 people across 12 sites, for over 50 years. In that time, it has become one of the leading suppliers of products and therapies to the NHS. Its Thetford plant is unique in being the only UK-based manufacturer of sterile IV solutions and bags.

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This purpose-built facility opened in the 1960s and is the company's largest UK site, employing approximately 450 people. As such, it is also one of the town's biggest employers and helps support a good number of other jobs locally. This makes it an important part of the thriving Cambridge Norwich Technology Corridor, along the newly dualled A11.

Baxter continues to invest in the site. Recently this included upgrading the infrastructure and installing new technology to boost manufacturing capacity. Its scientists also collaborate with partners across the UK to provide people with a healthier future.

Baxter Healthcare Ltd - Healthcare

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Why invest in Norfolk?

"We have always worked closely with local authorities, businesses and education providers to develop our capabilities," says Andy Goldney General Manager for UK Ireland and Nordics. "Norfolk County Council and the New Anglia LEP have been particularly supportive.

"Our community involvement includes collaborating to provide training to pharmacy students at UEA. We are also working closely with the College of West Suffolk to offer training courses, NVQs and apprenticeships to talented people.

"We continue to believe it's important to manufacture sterile IV bags and solutions in the UK for use in the UK. This established facility, with its dedicated multi-generational workforce, demonstrates that commitment. Our Thetford team is justifiably proud of the work we do to save and sustain people's lives."

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