



ASTON MARTIN

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Aston Martin Lagonda puts safety first as staff begin phased return to work at UK manufacturing site

- **Extensive and wide-reaching new safety measures are designed to reduce COVID-19 risk for Aston Martin Lagonda employees returning to work**
- **Staff at St Athan factory lead the way on 5 May; Gaydon to follow in due course**
- **The range of actions being taken exceeds latest Government advice**

7 May 2020, Gaydon, UK: Aston Martin Lagonda is this week beginning a carefully planned phased return to work for a number of its manufacturing staff as the business looks to prudently restart car making while adjusting to the new normal in the nation's ongoing battle to protect the NHS and overcome the threat of COVID-19.

Working closely with the trade unions, Aston Martin Lagonda has developed detailed return-to-work protocols to be followed by employees returning to their jobs at the brand's manufacturing facility in St Athan, Wales. Production workers at the company's global headquarters in Gaydon, Warwickshire will follow at a later date, as will office and support staff at Aston Martin Lagonda's various other UK sites.

The meticulously planned Site Operating Procedures are aimed at protecting individual staff members, their colleagues, their families and the wider community. The social distancing, health and hygiene instructions cover every aspect of a staff member's interaction with work from preparing to leave home to arriving on site; navigating the site; breaks and mealtimes; falling ill whilst at work; dealing with visitors and contractors; and leaving the site. There is also detailed guidance on PPE management; travel between Aston Martin Lagonda sites; and pool car arrangements.

Dozens of individual actions and instructions have been drawn up to support social distancing, with carefully calculated limits on employee numbers on site and working at any given time to

support staff actions. Appropriate PPE is being provided to all returning staff, for example mandatory use of masks at all time while on site, temperature checks on arrival at work are also being introduced.

Scott Ward, Director of Manufacturing at Aston Martin Lagonda's St Athan site, said: "The safety and ongoing good health of our staff is absolutely paramount in our thinking as we slowly and carefully return to car building.

"The arrangements we have put in place here for our phased return to work as we continue to build the brand's first SUV – the highly anticipated DBX – are designed to support the health and safety of staff while, of course, doing everything we can to ensure we do not add to the burden already being borne by the incredibly dedicated frontline staff of the NHS."

Philip Reardon, Senior Shop Steward and Health and Safety Representative, Unite Wales, said: "Unite the Union is working closely with Aston Martin Lagonda to ensure, above all, a safe return to work for all staff as the business looks to move on from the lockdown phase. In doing so, our members are supporting the shared desire to deliver a sustainable business for all those working not only at St Athan but across the Aston Martin business in the UK."

Over the past weeks Aston Martin Lagonda staff have been engaged in a number of activities designed to help in the fight against COVID-19, from the manufacture of various items of PPE to the offer of free emergency repairs to NHS workers' cars.

– Ends –

www.astonmartin.com/media



Global Headquarters Gaydon

Peter Freedman
VP and Chief Marketing Officer
Mobile: +44 (0)7970 864957
E-Mail: peter.freedman@astonmartin.com

Kevin Watters
Director of Communications
Mobile: +44 (0)7764 386683
E-Mail: kevin.watters@astonmartin.com

The Americas

Nathan Hoyt
Head of Public Relations
Mobile: +1 949 701 7747
E-Mail: nathan.hoyt@astonmartin.com

Valentine Oldham
Mobile: +1 617 721 5392
Email: valentine@valentinepr.com

David Adams
Press Officer, Product Communications
Mobile: +44 (0)7825 863880
E-Mail: david.adams@astonmartin.com

Grace Barnie
Manager, Corporate Communications
Mobile: +44 (0)7880 903490
E-Mail: grace.barnie@astonmartin.com

Raphaelle Loheac-Derboulle
Press Officer, Lifestyle Communications
Mobile: +44 (0)7801 265126
E-Mail: raphaele.loheac@astonmartin.com

Sophie Tobin
Press Officer
Mobile: +44 (0)7812 679785
E-Mail: sophie.tobin@astonmartin.com

Georgina Cook
Press Officer, UK & South Africa
Mobile: +44 (0)7824 408082
E-Mail: georgina.cook1@astonmartin.com

Julien Baudon
Junior Press Officer
Mobile: +44 (0)7785 238074
E-Mail: julien.baudon@astonmartin.com

Scott Fisher
Heritage Communications Manager
Mobile: +44 (0)7841 912225
E-mail: scott.fisher1@astonmartin.com

Continental Europe

Tina Brenner
PR Manager EU
Mobile: +49 (0) 172 8232375
E-Mail: tina.brenner@astonmartin.com

Leonardo Lucchini
PR Specialist Europe
Tel: +49 (0)69 77075 2026
Email: leonardo.lucchini@astonmartin.com

Judith Richter
PR Executive Europe
Tel: +49 (0) 69 77075 2018
Mobile: +49 (0) 162 258 1360
Email: judith.richter@astonmartin.com

China

Rachel Guo
Marketing and Communications Manager
Mobile: + 86 156 0162 8312
E-Mail: rachel.guo@astonmartin.com

Elisa Zhou
PR Manager
Tel: +86 136 8168 3374
E-Mail: elisa.zhou1@astonmartin.com

Asia Pacific

Andreas Rosén
Marketing and Communications Manager
Mobile: +65 6908 0825
Email: Andreas.Rosen@astonmartin.com

Sarah McDonald
PR - Australia
Mobile: +61 438 115 108
E-Mail: Sarah.McDonald@astonmartin.com

Middle East

Ramzi Atat
Marcoms Senior Manager
+971 (50) 5187778
E-Mail: ramzi.atat@astonmartin.com

Sandra Schneider
Tel: +971 50 524 0120
E-Mail: sandra@schneider-pr.net

