



# BIG FREEZE HITS PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL

One of Priority Sites' high quality units on Plymouth International

BioVault Ltd only decided to move to a Priority Sites development in Plymouth after a cool analysis of the business case.

But maybe that was inevitable, given that the company was planning to build the UK's first cryogenic freezer for the storage of human tissue samples.

The response from local and national media to the news was anything but frosty, however. In fact reporters were queuing up to cover the hot - sorry, cold - story. (That's enough cold puns - Ed).

The media spotlight shone on the four-man team behind BioVault's pioneering work: Ian McFadzen, John Wedderburn, Paul Giles and Mike Smith. Now firmly established at the Plymouth International, the four hope to serve a market which is currently only catered for in the US.

With the help of Priority Sites, BioVault now has a home for a machine that uses liquid nitrogen vapour to store tissue samples at temperatures below 180°C. We're not quite sure how cold that is, but we've have been told it's chilly enough to stop your fish fingers from going green.

BioVault is now in the process of securing accreditation from several medical bodies and will serve both the NHS and the private health care sector.

BioVault Operations Director, Paul Giles, said: "The move will enable us to establish a significant foothold in the marketplace. By providing a world-class facility in the UK we will be at the forefront of the European repository and tissue-banking sector."

Samples taken include stem cells, which can be used to assist patients undergoing chemotherapy. The cells are also being used in cutting-edge research into new treatments for Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis and diabetes.

## Bio Vault will serve both the NHS and the private health care sector

Biovault Ltd won't be the only medical-related firm to move to the 81.5-acre business park, which is accessed by the A38 Devon Expressway.

Priority Sites has built four units on about five acres of the park, and private medical firm Care UK will occupy a 30,000 sq ft building for a new diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation centre. Electronics firm SMG Europe Ltd and local company Keith Preston Joinery have taken two further units.

Steve O'Higgins, Operations and Development Manager for the South West RDA which owns Plymouth International, said: "I'm delighted that BioVault Ltd has located to the site. This fits in with our plan to make Plymouth International into a high quality medical and technology park to support the creation and growth of businesses specialising in medicine, research and design as well as continuing to attract other commercial businesses."

## The Far East Connection

The oil fields of the Far East may seem a long way from Worksop, but the two now have a strong connection - thanks to cutting edge technology.

Laser Cladding Technology relocated to Priority Sites' development at Shireoaks Triangle in the Nottinghamshire town in March.

Now its state-of-the-art diode laser machine, the only one of its kind in the world, is busy making a unique form of tungsten carbide material which is used on down-hole tools in the oil and gas industries to stop them wearing out.

The laser is in demand with clients from all over the world, including oil firms in the Far East and Norway, as it can produce a material which is twice as tough as traditional tungsten carbide.

Laser Cladding Technology says it made the move to Shireoaks Triangle because of its excellent transport links and has described the unit it has taken on as giving an impression to visitors of 'pure professionalism'.

Priority Sites developed the Shireoaks Triangle, on the site of the former Shireoaks Colliery, in support of English Partnerships' National Coalfields Programme, which aims to help former mining communities.

