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**BRIGHT FUTURE FOR GRANTHAM TRAILER MANUFACTURER, AS 120 JOBS  
SAVED AND £30M LOCAL INVESTMENT SECURED**

The future of Grantham-based tipping trailer and truck body manufacturer Fruehauf has been saved – and a bright outlook secured for the business and its 120 staff – after being purchased from administration by specialist truck provider MV Commercial.

The landmark deal includes an immediate cash injection and a commitment to a further £30m investment over the next three years, as part of ambitious plans to modernise the manufacturing facility and realise the full potential of its 67-acre site.

Tom O'Rourke, CEO of MV Commercial, says: "This is a hugely significant day for both businesses; and quite simply an opportunity we couldn't turn down. Fruehauf has a fantastic product range, a rich heritage, and a wealth of talent within Grantham which will be complemented by our own strength and experience in the marketplace.

"With immediate effect we are starting work to scale production back up, enabling us to commit to a delivery schedule for outstanding customer orders and begin building new stock trailers for MV's own contract hire and ready-to-go fleets."

MV Commercial is best known for its one-stop-shop approach and plans to open a truck sales and rental facility on site in Grantham within the next month. Work will begin within days to refurbish much of the site.

Steven Cairns, Managing Director of MV Commercial, says: "Fruehauf is a major local employer and we will be transferring 100 per cent of the current workforce

under TUPE. We also have a clear ambition to grow our presence on site. Grantham is the perfect fit for us, and the longer-term goal is to bring additional employment and apprenticeship opportunities to the town.”

Production capacity within the factory should quickly reach 15-20 trailers again per week under MV’s stewardship, with plans for the workforce – many of whom have been furloughed in recent months – to return to their jobs swiftly.

Sir Richard Tollemache of Buckminster Estates, which owns the land the Fruehauf factory sits on, says: “I am absolutely thrilled to have MV Commercial taking on this business, and at their vision for developing a transport industry hub within Grantham.

“It is essential that we secure jobs and future employment opportunities for the area as without employment, there’s no point in building the new housing which is being proposed. This investment and commitment from MV Commercial is precisely what we need and will help contribute to the revitalisation of our town centre.”

MV Commercial employs 190 staff spread across five sites and has a strong track record for delivering business growth both organically and through acquisition. It has previously acquired the assets of two major rental businesses – Regal Truck Rental and TLS – plus in 2015 it acquired bodybuilder JWR Recovery Trucks.

MV Commercial hopes to revive the legendary ‘Crane Fruehauf’ name, by which the business was known until around 1998. The rebranding is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.

In November 2020 MV Commercial was named as one of the London Stock Exchange Group’s ‘1,000 Companies to Inspire Britain’.

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**Note to editors:**

MV Commercial provides sales and leasing for commercial vehicles, as well as specialising in areas such as crane truck design and engineering, livery and painting. Founded in 2001, the company currently employs 190 staff across the UK, carrying a stock of more than 1,500 LCV and HGV vehicles.

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