

## LOCAL FOOD SUPPLIER IS AMONG UK'S GREENEST COMPANIES

### ***Stowmarket business rubs shoulders with supermarket giants!***

Muntons, the Stowmarket-based supplier of malt and malted ingredients to the food and beverage industry, was revealed as one of the country's 'greenest' businesses in a new Sunday Times environmental ranking.

The company, which employs 272 people, has been placed 41st by judges in the newspaper's cross-sector Top 60 Best Green Companies awards scheme, the results of which were published on the 24th May. The national competition recognises companies in all industries that have gone the extra mile to minimise their impact on the environment.

Muntons is one of only three food companies to be included in the Sunday Times' list. The others are fizzy drinks giant Coca Cola and health food manufacturer Hain Celestial. Supermarket giants Tesco and Asda also appear in the Top 60, highlighting the fierce level of competition for places in the ranking and the scale of Muntons' achievement.

It is the second time Muntons has appeared in the Best Green Companies ranking. Last year, the company was placed 43<sup>rd</sup>. Its improved performance this time around reflects a number of key green measures implemented by the company over the past year, including:

- £1.2 million investment in state-of-the-art Varinox kiln heaters at Muntons' Stowmarket factory
- Incentivising staff to cut their carbon footprint by leaving their cars at home and cycling to work

The Sunday Times said: "Employees believe the company has a sound commitment to the environment, giving it a 90% positive green score for this question. They think it is getting better at protecting the planet (93%), that it goes for the most ecofriendly solution rather than the cheapest (80%), and does everything it can to minimise its impact (86%). Staff believe the environment is an everyday consideration in the workplace (85%), are aware that their jobs have an impact on the world around them, and agree that bosses are open to suggestions for improvements (both 86%)."

Richard Caseby, managing editor of The Sunday Times, said Muntons inclusion in the Best Green Companies ranking meant it was part of a select group of businesses.

"The 60 companies in this survey are all pioneers – enterprising, enlightened and fizzing with new ideas," he said. "All have a common sense of purpose about their corporate social responsibility. There may be plenty of environmental awards but this is the first that has both a robust methodology to measure environmental performance and a survey of each company's staff to find out whether the green sheen is more than skin-deep."