



November 2021

Dear Valued Customer,

We have recently entered several awards, including: **The Manufacturer MX Awards**

Foam Engineers Ltd, The UK's leading foam converter, a technical foam fabricator specialising in providing technical solutions for our global customer base, is proud to have made it through to the finals of The Manufacturer, MX Awards, shortlisted in four prestigious categories, including: Achieving Customer Value, Leadership and Strategy, People and Skills & Supply Chain Excellence.



Over 50 of Britain's top manufacturing companies have made it through to the finals of the UK's largest and most rigorous industry awards programme. The winners will be announced at The Manufacturer MX Awards ceremony and gala dinner taking place on 11<sup>th</sup> November at ACC Liverpool.



Foam Engineers recently entered the **Zotefoams Centenary Awards** for most unique product and we are delighted to have won this award with our motorcycle entry.

Please feel free to watch the Awards Presentation here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neXQ-5RxELU>

Foam Engineers are delighted with this award as we have a strong emphasis throughout the business on designing and innovating. We are proud of our ability to develop new products which is all done during our daily New Product Introduction (NPI) meeting which involves our sales, production, and technology teams. These detailed and interactive daily meetings allow Foam Engineers to rapidly prototype, explore new opportunities, create, and design new parts from an established knowledge base, improve quality, introduce efficiencies to our working practices and factory operations.

### **ISO 9001: 2015**

Foam Engineers has recently and successfully completed renewal of our ISO 9001: 2015 certificate following a detailed audit of our management system, quality policies, interested parties, internal and external risks. The new certificate can be downloaded from our website.

[www.foamengineers.co.uk](http://www.foamengineers.co.uk)

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### **4-day working week**

Foam Engineers has recently introduced a 4-day working week, this has been a huge success with benefits to our business and customers, meaning we have reduced our standard 2-week lead-time from 10 days to 8 days. The 4-day working week has also enabled more efficiencies within the business and has been a positive change.

### **Supply Chain Issues**

**If you are planning to place any orders for delivery prior to the Christmas holidays, we would recommend that you do this as soon as possible to avoid any delays. We would also very much encourage you to inform us of your future requirements as we enter 2022. Please discuss your requirements with our sales office at Foam Engineers so we can plan our stock holding accordingly.**

As lockdowns have lifted, demand has rocketed and supply chains that were disrupted during the global health crisis are still facing huge challenges and are struggling to bounce back. This has led to chaos for manufacturers and distributors of goods who cannot produce or supply as much as they did pre-pandemic for a variety of reasons, including worker shortages, a lack of key components and raw materials and price increases. This, in some cases, has significantly limited availability of some of our products.



Brexit has been a factor around a shortage of truck drivers. The U.S. is also battling a shortage of drivers, as is Germany, with the former also experiencing large backlogs at its ports.

As the global economic recovery continues to gather steam, what is increasingly apparent is how it will be stymied by supply-chain disruptions that are now showing up at every corner.

Foam Engineers has a very effective sales and operations planning team which closely monitors and manages our material orders and strategic stocks, we wish to continue to offer our usual high level of service, quality, and essential products with improved lead times, however, we would appreciate your help and support to enable us to continue fulfilling your orders and meeting your requirements as usual. If your company would like to put reassurances in place to de-risk your Supply Chain, please feel free to talk to us about holding stocks of your products which can be held at Raw Material, WIP or Finished Goods stages depending on the lead-times you are looking to achieve.

### **Christmas Opening Times**

We will be closing our factory for a little longer than usual this year. **We close on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and re-open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Foam Engineers

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