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## Sainsbury's Chooses Unipart as New Logistics Partner

Unipart Group, one of Europe's leading providers of supply chain and third party logistics services, has been chosen by major UK supermarket chain, Sainsbury's, to be its non-food fulfilment provider. The contract will see Unipart manage the warehousing of Sainsbury's general merchandise and home & lifestyle product ranges for all its stores. The contract will be serviced from a new 377,000 sq ft facility in Tamworth, Staffordshire, with an initial workforce of 350 people.

Sainsbury's joins a long list of top retail clients, such as Homebase, Halfords and ASOS to whom Unipart Logistics provides logistics and supply chain management services.

The appointment of Unipart is the next step in the retailer's long-term strategy to accelerate the growth of its complementary non-food ranges using its principles of quality, value and innovation to provide a broader shopping experience for its customers.

"We felt that having visited the Unipart sites, spoken to the Unipart team and seen the way that they operate, that they could offer something different," comments David James, Head of Non-Food Logistics at Sainsbury's. "We liked the whole ethos around the Unipart Way, the focus on continuous improvement and the way that they engage with their colleagues, and this is where we see the commercial advantage that Unipart can bring to the Sainsbury's Logistics division."

Unipart Logistics will use the proven techniques of the Unipart Way to deliver and sustain operational excellence for Sainsbury's and to train and inspire colleagues at the new Tamworth DC to achieve their personal and group potential.

Frank Burns, Managing Director of Unipart Logistics commented: "We are delighted to be working with a partner whose goal and values are so closely aligned to our own. Sainsbury's strong ethical approach to business and its focus on continuous improvement, colleague engagement and, most importantly, serving customers well and exceeding their expectations, are a perfect match for how we conduct our own business."

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## **Notes to editors:**

### **About Unipart Group**

The Unipart Group employs more than 8,000 personnel worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £1billion. It is one of Europe's leading logistics companies and a widely-recognised pioneer in the field of Lean implementation.

Operating across a range of market sectors, including automotive, leisure, marine, manufacturing, mobile telecoms, rail, retail and technology, Unipart offers a breadth of services from third party logistics to expert consultancy.

All Unipart sites operate according to the Group's proprietary version of Lean known as The Unipart Way. This is a philosophy of working underpinned by tools and techniques that inspires efficiency, flexibility and outstanding customer service in any process.

Unipart also offers expert consultancy in implementing Lean principles and in supply chain management across a variety of industry sectors.

The Group's clients include Halfords, ASOS.com, Homebase, Vodafone, 3, BSkyB, Jaguar Land Rover, Severn Trent Water and HMRC.

### **About Sainsbury's**

J Sainsbury plc consists of Sainsbury's – a chain of 509 supermarkets and 276 convenience stores – and Sainsbury's Bank.

Sainsbury's Supermarkets is the UK's longest standing major food retailing chain, having opened its first store in 1869. The Sainsbury's brand is built upon a heritage of providing customers with healthy, safe, fresh and tasty food. Today it differentiates itself by offering a broad range of great quality products at fair prices with particular emphasis on fresh food, a strong ethical approach to business and continuous leadership and innovation.

Products are improved and developed to ensure the company leads in terms of the ingredients used and integrity of sourcing. A large Sainsbury's store offers around 30,000 products and an increasing number of stores also offer complementary non-food products and services. 165 stores also operate an internet-based home delivery shopping service.