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## **NORTHERN TRUST**

INVESTMENT | DEVELOPMENT | REGENERATION

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## **FROM FUNERALS TO FABRICS**

**Warehouse premises on Rekendyke Industrial Estate, South Shields have undergone a transformation as BST Fabrics Ltd complete a new 10 year lease to take the whole of Block 7.**

The property which had been occupied by Peter Johnson Funerals Ltd for the past 15 years became available in August 2018 on the expiration of their lease. Following an entire refurbishment of the 6,775 sq ft unit a new lease was secured with BST Fabrics Ltd, who have moved from nearby Middlefields Industrial Estate.

Both properties are owned by Northern Trust Company Ltd, a major provider of industrial floorspace in the area and are actively managed by Northern Trust's in-house surveying practice Whittle Jones Asset Management. Angus Todd, Management Surveyor at Whittle Jones North East commented "It has been fantastic to secure a new letting for this unit only days after the refurbishment works were completed. This is testament to the investment in the property shown by Northern Trust and excellent work carried out by our approved contractors, who complete works to the highest standards and enable us to provide occupiers with excellent quality accommodation."

On receiving notice that the property was to become available, Whittle Jones worked closely with BST Fabrics who required further space to continue their business growth. Angus added "It has been great working with Gary and Tracy in order to help facilitate a third expansion of their business within the Northern Trust portfolio. A lot of hard work has seen them grow from a 500 sq ft unit to 6,775 sq ft in less than 3 years and this encapsulates Northern Trust's ethos in trying to help their tenants grow."

BST Fabrics provide a varied range of fabrics including hessian, jute, calico, silks and now have room to offer many more. The fabrics can be purchased at their new unit

on Rekendyke Industrial Estate or directly from their website [www.bstfabrics.co.uk](http://www.bstfabrics.co.uk). Gary and Tracy also run Facebook live events for their keenest of followers.

Gary Pickering, Director of BST Fabrics said “Whittle Jones have been superb in helping provide us with a platform to expand our business, the flexibility they can offer to a growing business such as ours sets them ahead of other business space providers and coupled with their helpful ‘can do attitude’ this has helped us outperform our targets over the last 3 years.

For more information regarding premises available via Whittle Jones North East contact 0191 221 1999 or email [northeast@whittlejones.co.uk](mailto:northeast@whittlejones.co.uk)

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*Notes to Editors:*

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Northern Trust was established in 1962 and is now one of the UK’s largest and most successful privately owned property investment, development and land regeneration companies.

The existing property portfolio extends to almost 8 million sq ft of industrial, trade counter and office parks, together with more than 5,000 acres of land throughout the UK, with circa 1,500 acres currently being promoted through the planning process for mixed use development.

**Northern Trust** works closely with house builders, local authorities and special purchasers in bringing forward regeneration opportunities; and has already secured planning for circa 4,500 homes with the potential of bringing forward a further 2,000 houses over the next 12 months.

In addition, **Northern Trust** has developed over 2 million sq ft of commercial space in over 40 locations with a further 0.5 million sq ft currently under construction or with planning being prepared for commencement on site within the next year. The company also benefits from a supplementary land bank for the longer term.

The Commercial and Industrial portfolio contains over 3,600 individual units with unit sizes ranging from as little as 285 sq ft up to c 50,000 sq ft and office suites from as little as 1 person upwards. Premises are situated in over 200 separate locations and the portfolio extends from the South Midlands to the central belt of Scotland. In the last 12 months, Northern Trust has added over 500,000 sq ft to its portfolio through new acquisitions. The portfolio is actively managed by Northern Trust's in-house surveying practice **Whittle Jones**. Whittle Jones have regional offices in the North West, North East, Yorkshire, Midlands and Scotland.

New and existing customers looking for industrial and office accommodation can search the [Whittle Jones website](#).

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Northern Trust has substantial funds available for new investment, development, and regeneration initiatives throughout the UK. For further information on Northern Trust please visit our website at [www.northerntrust.co.uk](http://www.northerntrust.co.uk)