



"We needed a cash injection to help us purchase a competitor which enabled us to enter a new and exciting phase of development. The support received from MSIF was crucial"

*Alan Sheridan
Managing Director*

The company

A Algeo has origins dating back to 1881 when the company started out as a leather merchant and shoe repairer.

In 1989 Alan Sheridan bought the business and turned it into the UK's leading supplier of materials, machinery and components to the orthopaedic manufacturing industries in the UK and abroad. The company is described as the UK's only 'one stop shop' for the orthopaedic footwear and medical appliance industries and they also export products to several countries.

In 1995 the company bought a plant and machinery from a supplier who had gone bankrupt and moved from their premises in Toxteth to their current site on Bridge Industrial Estate in Speke. The business became extremely successful and in 2003 they expanded again, buying out one of their suppliers.

How MSIF helped

A Algeo secured a Small Firms Fund loan of £100,000 from MSIF which was used to purchase a competitor. This company was the UK distributor for the world's leading comfort material for diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis sufferers.

Progress to Date

A Algeo now has over 6000 products in its extensive range including orthotic insoles, splints, spinal jackets, surgical shoes and wheelchairs for use in the prosthetics, orthotics, physiotherapy and podiatry industries. The company also produces materials such as plastics, silicones and carbon fibres.

The company's range of products are also used by sports enthusiasts to help protect against injury caused by strain on the muscles and joints when taking part in games such as football, rugby, golf and athletics. Gel filled heel pads and specialist insoles are just some of the items available.

Alan runs the business with his son Jamie and his wife Sue also works for the company. A Algeo employ 38 staff and turnover is expected to reach almost £3.5 million next year.

The MSIF Group of Funds is managed by Alliance Fund Managers which is regulated by the FSA in the course of investment business.