



**GAINSBOROUGH**

*fabrics of distinction*

**OAKFIELD** 

CAPITAL PARTNERS

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Sudbury, Suffolk, 18th September 2015.

**The Gainsborough Silk Weaving Co Ltd.**, the renowned British manufacturer of fabrics of distinction, is delighted to announce the completion of a new investment from Oakfield Capital Partners.

Based in Suffolk, Gainsborough is one of the leading industrial-sized weavers in England and was awarded the Royal Warrant in 1980. The new investment will allow the Company to capitalise on its rich heritage of fabric designs and boost its sales and marketing efforts around the world.

David Sentance has been appointed as Managing Director and will lead Gainsborough's UK consolidation and expansion into the USA and Middle Eastern markets. David has spent over 25 years in the fabrics industry building up companies supplying the furnishing industry on an international basis.

Sentance said "I am very excited to be joining Gainsborough. The combination of our highly capable workforce, the expansive archive of designs compiled over the last century, and our new investment will give us the opportunity to bring new collections to the market, provide excellent service to our customers, and to grow our business significantly."

Russell Sage, who has assumed the position of Creative Director, said "I'm thrilled that Gainsborough has found such a strong and imaginative partner in Oakfield Capital Partners. I remain passionately committed to the great craftsmen and traditional manufacturing businesses in the UK. My relationship with Gainsborough has been ongoing for many years and with Oakfield Capital Partners' shrewd investment, the business is on the verge of an incredible revolution which will keep and respect the very best of its history, whilst exploring the wider opportunities that the business can now pursue."

Michael Patton of Oakfield, who has joined the board of the company said, "We believe that this unique British business has the potential to sell its product globally. By leveraging its heritage product and manufacturing facility with financial resource and great people, we are confident that Gainsborough will grow quickly."

Gainsborough will be officially launching its new collection of designs, inspired by the unique craftsmanship of Gainsborough weavers, at the forthcoming Decorex Exhibition in Syon Park during the London Design Festival from 20th-23rd September.



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**ABOUT GAINSBOROUGH**

**[www.gainsborough.co.uk](http://www.gainsborough.co.uk)**

Gainsborough was established in 1903 by Reginald Warner, an enterprising weaver who went on several Grand Tours to create an extraordinary archive of inspirational fabrics, which remains at the heart of the famous Gainsborough Archive today. Awarded the Royal Warrant in 1980, the company has produced fabrics for numerous royal palaces and state buildings, and today continues the tradition of creating fabrics of enduring quality.

CONTACT

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**ABOUT OAKFIELD CAPITAL**

**[www.oakfieldcapital.co.uk](http://www.oakfieldcapital.co.uk)**

Oakfield Capital is a private equity firm that invests in small and medium-sized businesses in the UK. We partner with management teams, providing capital and expertise to grow successful businesses that can deliver significant capital gains through operational improvement. We are active owners and invest our own money in each deal, aligning our interests with those who invest alongside us.

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