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## EGGER Barony



In the UK, EGGER Group operates two plants located in Hexham and Barony. Headquartered in Austria, the family owned business has 20 plants and 26 sales office across the world.

EGGER Barony is a purpose built, raw chipboard production plant located on the outskirts of Auchinleck, East Ayrshire. Production began in 1998 and today we employ over 130 people, with over 20% of the workforce joining as an apprentice. Over the last ten years, the site has received significant investment from EGGER Group. This has upgraded and increased the efficiency of our production processes to serve our growing customer base.

We produce raw chipboard, melamine faced chipboard and structural flooring in the UK for the furniture, interior design and housebuilding markets. We also supply the UK market with worktops, laminates, edging, OSB and decorative flooring.

Annually we produce 1.1million m<sup>3</sup> of chipboard across both UK sites, generating a turnover of £282 million. Over the last 35 years, we have produced enough melamine faced chipboard to build one and a half kitchens in every home in the UK, and made enough structural flooring to floor more than two million homes.



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## EGGER Barony Building and maintaining our workforce



We are committed to the continued development of our skilled workforce. Thanks to significant investments from EGGER Group, and the complex nature of our production, we have been able to grow our workforce at Barony by +60% since 1998.

Our market leading apprenticeship programme offers the opportunity to develop new skills in a Mechanical, Electrical or Production role, whilst working towards a Level 3 Scottish Vocational Qualification. In 2019, our apprenticeship programme was recognised by the Scottish Apprenticeship Awards, S1 Jobs Awards and the Ayrshire Business Awards.

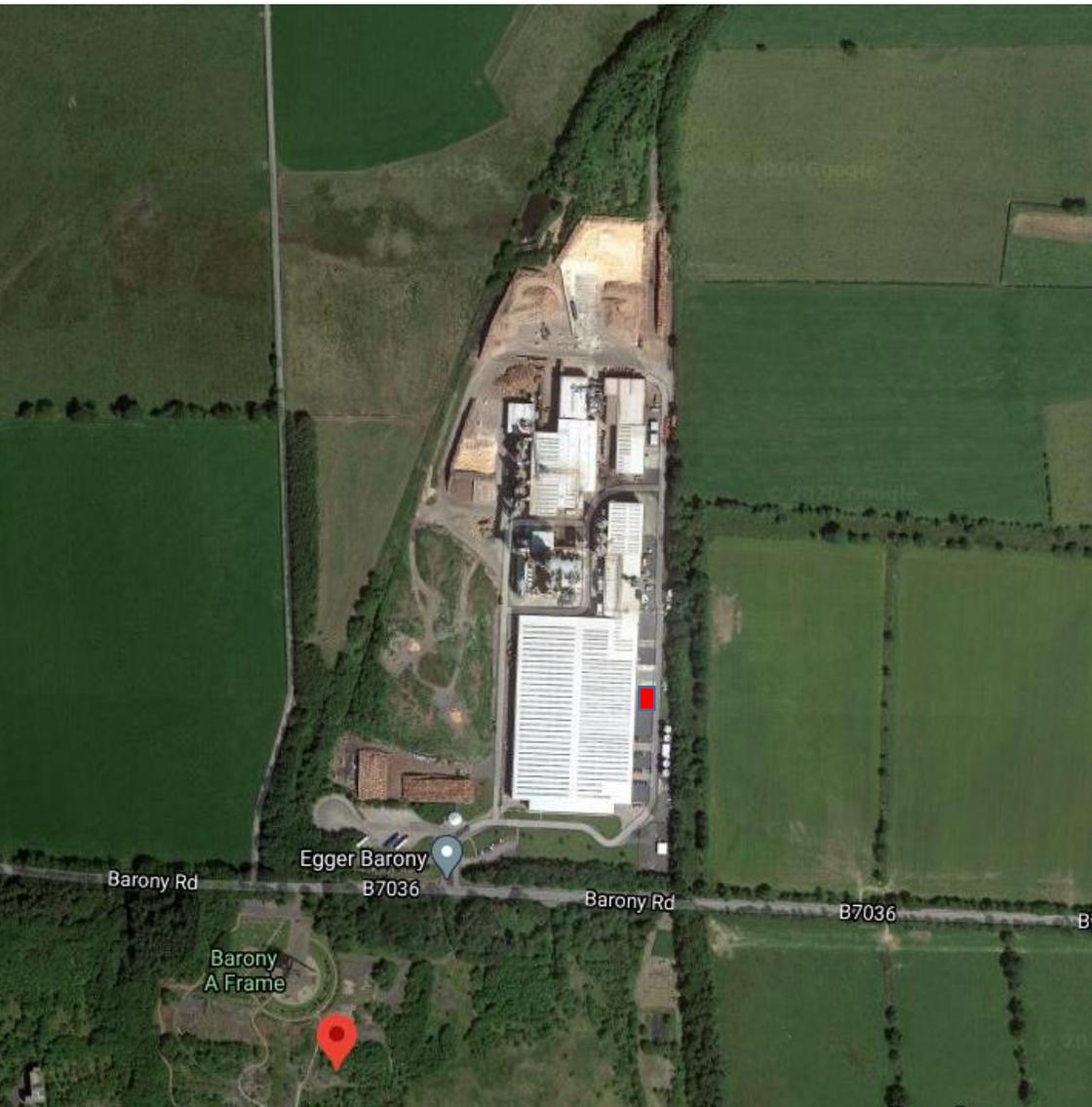
We are currently recruiting for up to 20 new employees, inclusive of apprentices.



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## EGGER Barony Proposal



Our proposed development is the erection of plant and machinery with an emissions stack as an extension to the chipboard manufacturing plant on the east side of the main building.

The area of the extension is 145 sq.m, and the height of the emissions stack is 25m at its highest point which compares with the existing emissions stack at a height of 50m. The function of the proposed plant is to add a cleansing process which will result in a beneficial effect on the environment in relation to the quality of emissions to the air.

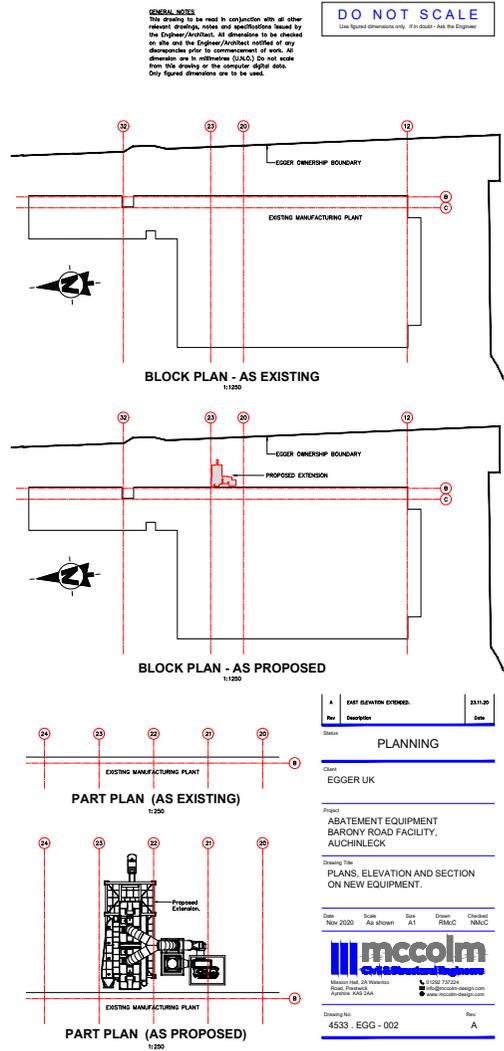
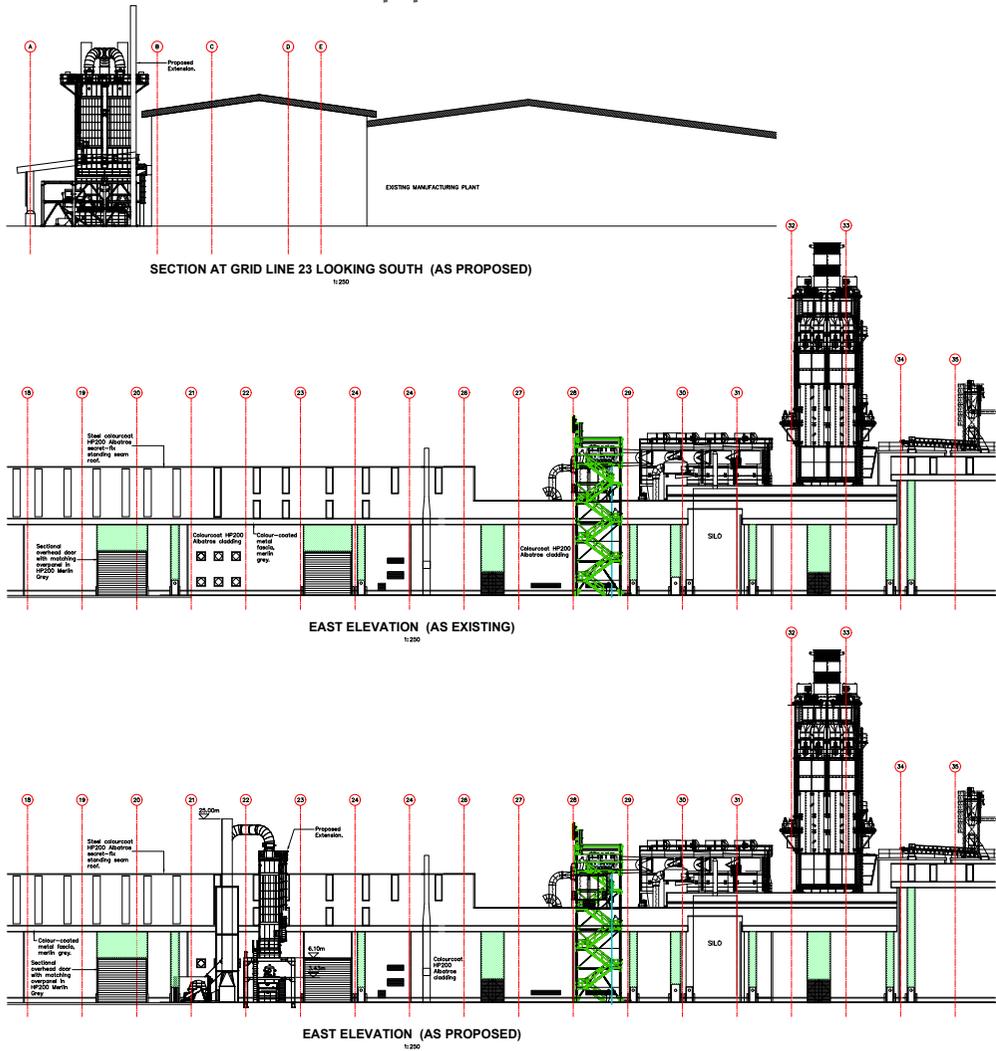
The process undertaken within the production hall is the manufacture of chipboard which involves pressure and heat being applied with a glue mixture to the raw wood. The purpose of the proposed plant and machinery is to extract emissions and clean them through a series of pipes, screens, and electrostatic fields before discharging the water vapour to the new stack and the thereafter into the atmosphere.

East Ayrshire Council agree there will be little impact on local neighbours through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Pre-Screening Request. The existing site sits on top of the existing production plant at 50m above ground, whereas this new proposed stack will be built from existing ground level and is only half of this height at 25m so there will be very limited visibility.

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# EGGER Barony Benefits of the Application



- A new stack will reduce potential business disruption in case of fire or explosion, this means safety will be increased for people living next to the plant.
- It will reduce workplace exposure of our employees to production fumes (e.g. Formaldehyde) at their place of work.
- If we reduce the exhaust fumes going to the existing WESP this will result in a reduction of concentration at the existing stack (which we can demonstrate as we did some tests simulating this running condition), if we then increase the cleaning of the emissions from the Conti press, the overall emissions should reduce more.

## EGGER Barony Planning Process

East Ayrshire Council stated in their assessment that there will be no significant environmental impacts on the following issues;

The proposal is well screened from Barony Road and is located away from sensitive receptors and centres of population.	✓
The plant is and will continue to be regulated by SEPA and will not cause any pollution.	✓
The proposal will not give rise to any water or air pollution.	✓
There are no potential cumulative impacts with our existing developments within the planning system currently.	✓
There will be no risk of accidents during construction or operation of the development that could impact people or the environment.	✓
Due to the distance and location and topography of the site there will be minimal impact on residential receptors or agriculture.	✓

- In 2019, we brought forward a planning application to remove traffic restrictions on the site. Despite being a local application, we undertook an extensive public consultation plan to consult the local community on these proposals. East Ayrshire Council had a full hearing on the proposals and was thereafter granted. Thereafter, we were delighted to establish a Community Liaison Forum inclusive of the nine surrounding community councils in the area.
- In December 2020 East Ayrshire Council (EAC), agreed that the proposals can be submitted as a “Local Planning Application” and not a “Major Planning Application” because the size of the extension was within the relevant criteria. Following a Screening Request under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, EAC agreed in February 2021 that a formal EIA was not required.
- A new Licencing Permit will also be required for the proposals from SEPA, and this is separate from the process of dealing with the planning application. Whilst SEPA will be consulted by EAC on the planning application, it is standing advice that the planning system should not involve duplication of powers which are held by other Regulatory Bodies (eg SEPA).
- We are now working on our planning application which we will submit before the end of February 2021.

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## EGGER Barony Next Steps

These materials and all public information can be readily accessed on our project website at [www.egger.com/barony-project](http://www.egger.com/barony-project) or by calling our Community Hotline on **T 0141 212 7123**.

### **Q1 2021 - Public Information Events**

In advance of submission we are holding two information events to inform the public of our proposals and allow the opportunity for feedback.

### **Q1 2021 - Submission of a local planning application to East Ayrshire Council for consideration**

Initial Coronavirus guidance from the government emerged Q1 2020 which, in the interest of public safety, advised all planning applications to be accessible on digital platforms until March 2021 at the earliest. All planning application information will be uploaded and available on the EGGER Barony Project website. The Council will also require to advertise and carry out neighbour notification in relation to the proposals. Formal representations on the proposals can also be submitted to EAC in relation to the Planning Application under these Statutory processes.

### **Q2 2021 - Determination by East Ayrshire Council**

### **Q3 2021 - Orders placed for new stack production**

### **Q2 2022 - New stack at EGGER Barony fully operational**

Please visit [www.egger.com/barony-project](http://www.egger.com/barony-project) to give your feedback on the proposals.

Please note this feedback does not replace formal consultation with East Ayrshire Council.



If you have any questions or wish for any further information, please contact Kirsty OBrien at [kirsty.obrien@invictapa.co.uk](mailto:kirsty.obrien@invictapa.co.uk) or on **T 0141 212 7123**.