

## Press Release

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### **Manchester Textiles Gallery is new design contract for PLB**

One of the most popular museums in the UK, The Museum of Science and Industry Manchester (MSIM), has selected Yorkshire design and consulting agency PLB for the next stage of the museum's gallery design and refurbishment - the 'Finishing Platform' in the museum's Textiles Gallery.

The MSIM occupies the site of the world's oldest surviving passenger railway station and is the largest science and technology museum in the world to be based in historic, industrial buildings. Nearly 500,000 visitors a year, including 60,000 students, come to find out about the history, science and industry of Manchester, the world's first industrial city.

Home to eminent scientists Joule, Rutherford, Lovell and Dalton amongst others, Manchester lays claim to splitting the atom and being the birthplace of the first stored program computer, microphotography (microfilming), and the first table of atomic weights.

The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester proudly displays it all!

The Textiles Gallery tells the fascinating story of the 19<sup>th</sup> century textile capital of the world, from early cottage-based industries and the noisy and dangerous world of textile production to the science of 21<sup>st</sup> Century technical fabrics and their surprising variety of uses.

PLB is one of the country's most experienced and respected heritage consultancy and design companies. The team works throughout the UK and overseas; their design projects include the Tank Museum in Dorset, the National Woollen Museum in Wales and English Heritage's Helmsley Castle, as well as the recently awarded exhibition design contract at Manchester's People's History Museum. PLB not only designs impactful and eye-catching displays and exhibitions for museums of all sizes, its specialist consultants

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also provide strategic planning and advice on business plans, visitor management, conservation and access plans. They advise cultural and natural heritage locations in the UK and overseas, how to manage visitors in harmony with their historic environment. Previous studies have included York City Walls, several UK and overseas World Heritage Sites and recently a tourism development strategy for the Lincoln Magna Carta. PLB is based in Yorkshire and works with clients nationwide and internationally including local authorities, national agencies, independent trusts and museums.

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