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Unipart Rebutts “Black Tape on Desk” Allegations

Unipart has rebutted allegations that its consultants recommended the use of black tape on desks to indicate the position of pens and other personal items at a Government site. This is categorically untrue.

Unipart’s Lean experts engage people in organising their workplace to make their work easier and to enable them to be more effective. The workplace organisation activity is only one element of the introduction of the Lean techniques used and taught by experienced Unipart practitioners.

This approach has been adapted for use in offices, factories, warehouses and other facilities based on the requirements of the site and to suit the way in which people work. It is a tried and tested approach that yields positive results. When people have been taught to implement workplace organisation in this way, the benefits are generally strongly welcomed by work teams.

The work undertaken by our consultants in Government offices has led to significant savings on behalf of the taxpayer as evidenced by the independent National Audit Office report of 6th July 2007 which described the purpose of Lean as "to streamline key work processes to eliminate duplication or reworking, improve accuracy, increase productivity, and reduce lead times in processing cases", and predicted savings to the taxpayer of £440 million by 2011 "the majority of which will be achieved through implementing Lean."

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Notes to editors:

About Unipart

The Unipart Group employs more than 9000 personnel worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £1billion.

Unipart Logistics provides retail logistics for Halfords, ASOS.com and Homebase technology logistics for Vodafone UK, 3 and BSKyB, and aerospace logistics for Airbus, as well as managing worldwide logistics for all Jaguar aftermarket parts.

Unipart Rail is the UK's largest independent supplier of materials, products and services to the rail industry, both in the UK and overseas, with a portfolio which covers both infrastructure and traction & rolling stock applications.

Unipart also offers expert consultancy in implementing Lean principles across a variety of industry sectors as well as supply chain specific expertise.

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