

Booming Henley firm targeting tenth office

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REPL – which has its headquarters in Henley – has set its sights on its tenth global office after continued international growth.

The retail IT consultancy and technology firm has announced a £26.9million gross turnover for its latest financial year, an increase of 20 per cent, as it looks to expand into new European territories to continue to grow its global presence and strengthen its team worldwide.

After successfully opening new offices in Singapore, South Africa and Texas, REPL is now looking to venture into a new European market as it looks to acquire office space in Germany, marking this as its tenth office location across the globe and increasing its presence on the continent.

As part of this global expansion, recruitment is high on REPL's agenda and the firm has already made 50 plus



■ REPL executive chairman Mike Callender.

new hires globally since 1st January 2019.

This number is set to rise as REPL now moves its attention to recruiting for new senior positions including a managing partner for supply chain and

a managing director for its American operations.

The company, which recorded profits of just over £2million in 2018/19, has continued to invest substantially in robotic process automation (RPA) and data science.

This has allowed REPL to capitalise on the 2018 opening of its Warwick-based testing hub that has facilitated the firm's R&D automation testing for its partnership with BP.

Mike Callender, executive chairman of REPL said: "So far, 2019 has been a great success for REPL and we hope to continue this momentum in the second half of the year. We're investing heavily in our people and, following our expansion into new markets last year, we are excited to open another office a bit closer to home."

"We're also committed to furthering our data science capabilities and capitalising on our investment in automated testing as well as continuing to focus on our core business of helping retailers maximise the returns from their IT investments."

Forum puts spotlight on SEND interns

WARWICKSHIRE businesses, colleges and training providers came out in force once again for the second Supportive Employers Inc forum.

Around 40 representatives from businesses joined Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and the Careers and Enterprise Company in Coventry and Warwickshire (CEC) for the event which aimed to bring firms together to share ideas and best practice on providing supported internships to

people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The Supportive Employers Inc partnership between the county council and the CEC is looking to create a network of businesses that can offer work experience and potentially apprenticeships.

As well as representatives from WCC and the CEC, other agencies were represented including the Department for Education and the Department for Work and Pensions who advised businesses

on how they could access support from the department.

The government has committed to a 20 per cent increase in the uptake of apprentices with SEND by 2020.

Nationally, there are nearly a quarter of a million people currently in education with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Of this number, while nearly 80 per cent would like to get a job, a mere six per cent actually go into paid employment.

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