

**The SIL Group**

*From fibre to fabric*



Where heritage and vision  
meet to create textile excellence

## From the world's finest fibres, to the world's finest fabrics

**The SIL Group is proud to be a family-owned business which trades on the international stage manufacturing for the world's most iconic brands. Running a family business has a huge influence on the way we treat all of our clients, business partners, staff and suppliers.**

Our passion, technical knowledge and market expertise has seen us grow from a single speciality fibres business, into one of the world's largest and most influential textile groups, but we never lose sight of the people who underpin our success.

Specialising in sourcing natural fibres from origins around the world, and selling them to a full spectrum of clients who are involved in processing and manufacturing of the finest fabrics, accessories, upholstery and finished garments.

We are a vertically integrated group of autonomous businesses which have all developed their own specific expertise and niche within the textile sector. Our group strength comes from the diversity of our businesses, the stability offered by

centralised group support functions, and the strategic overview we gain from integrating our market knowledge.

We believe three combined characteristics personify The SIL Group.

### Heritage

We respect the centuries of craftsmanship behind our world-class products

### Integrity

We value the people we work with and aim to protect their livelihoods and the environment

### Vision

We embrace new technologies and production methods when they enhance quality, service and efficiency

This brochure gives you an insight into the exceptional businesses with our Group, and highlights how they have forged their own identities and reputations, while maintaining our Group values.

# Fibres



# Yarns



**Seal International is a world leader in speciality fibres - including mohair, cashmere, alpaca, silk, angora, camelhair, yak and vicuna.**

Their experienced team travel the world to buy the finest fibres at source, and nurture strong and lasting relationships with trusted partners who's values are aligned to that of our own in achieving sustainability and traceability throughout.

Seal offers a premier-class customer experience - from initial enquiry and sampling, to bespoke in-house production capabilities which respond to specific client needs. The family business has traded for three generations and its unstinting focus on quality assurance, reliability and innovation continues to deliver the world's finest fibres.

[www.sealinternational.com](http://www.sealinternational.com)



**MBA Yarns is one of the largest independent yarn merchants and stock holders in Europe.**

They offer tailored solutions to meet the individual requirements of a range of industry sectors including apparel, upholstery, technical yarns and knitting yarns. MBA's experienced team has extensive technical knowledge and strong links to the Production businesses within The SIL Group.

These links, combined with their independent buying power, allow MBA to adopt an agile and flexible approach to yarn trading and respond effectively to the specialist demands of individual clients.

[www.mbayarns.co.uk](http://www.mbayarns.co.uk)

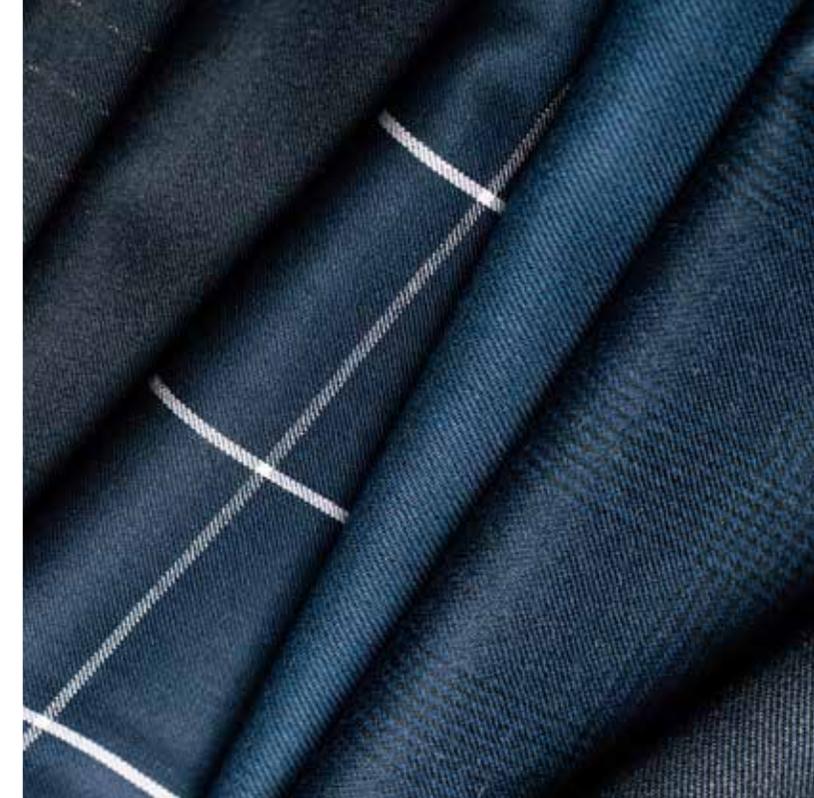
# Fabrics & Accessories



Founded in 1819, John Foster remains one of the world's leading weavers of superfine worsted and mohair cloths, John Foster prides itself on reliability and quality.

For over 200 years, the business has supplied leading fashion houses and garment makers around the world. With a reputation for innovation and design, the business continues to produce some of the most sought after cloths available.

[www.john-foster.co.uk](http://www.john-foster.co.uk)

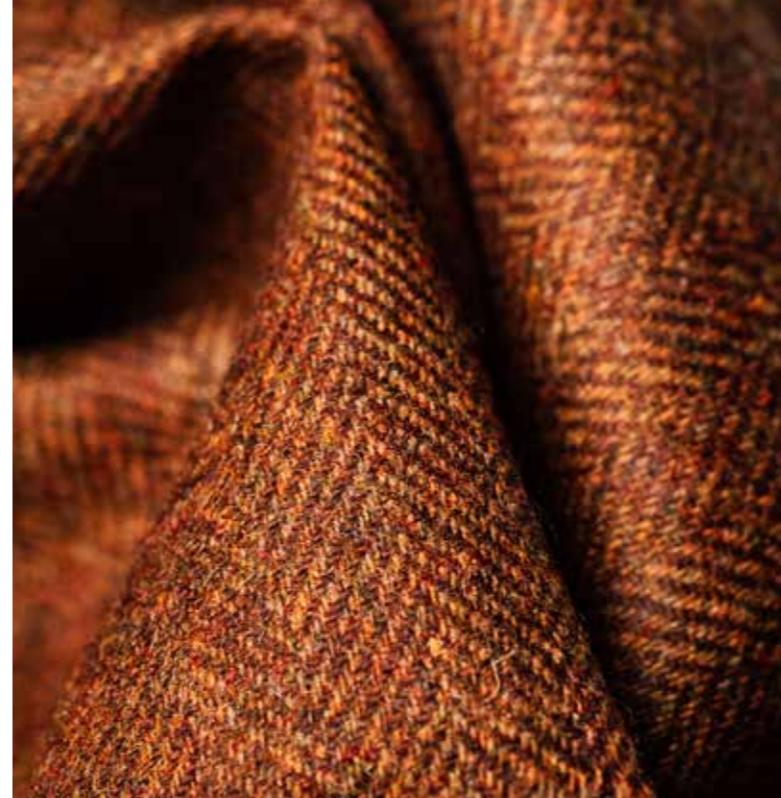


William Halstead is still weaving in its original 1875 mill based in the historic textile city of Bradford.

The company, named after its founder, is world famous for weaving the finest mohair fabrics and traditional worsteds. Over many generations they have consistently produced an inspiring collection of innovative designs with a quintessentially British look.

A highly talented in-house design team, and a passionate sales team work closely with the world's most iconic luxury fashion brands in collaboration to deliver something truly individual and special.

[www.williamhalstead.co.uk](http://www.williamhalstead.co.uk)



Boasting a vibrant, distinctive and luxurious collection of woollen jacketing, coating and twist suitings. Kynoch has blended modern manufacturing methods with traditional skills to weave depth, sophistication and character into every metre of cloth.

Founded in 1788, Kynoch has become a worldwide brand, synonymous with designs which capture the palette of colours found in the beautiful countryside of the Scottish Borders. Timeless and enduring traditional designs ensure that Kynoch is worn by royalty, world statesman and Hollywood film stars.

[www.kynochofscotland.co.uk](http://www.kynochofscotland.co.uk)



**Known as "The Tailor's Mill", Standeven manufactures and merchants fabric around the world since 1885.**

All of their fabrics are created exclusively for tailors, and woven at Standeven Mill in the heart of Yorkshire's historic textile industry. Standeven Fabrics control the whole process giving cut-length buyers in more than 50 countries direct access to the finest worsted cloths.

As a SIL Group member, Standeven benefits from integrated group logistics and shared expertise from fibre to fabric. Their innovative craftspeople use age-old techniques and modern approaches to weave luxury cloth for the world's finest tailors.

[www.standevenfabric.co.uk](http://www.standevenfabric.co.uk)



## Contract furnishings



## Joshua Ellis<sup>1767</sup>

**Joshua Ellis is renowned for producing the finest handcrafted cashmere and woollen cloth used for jacketing, coating and a range of accessories.**

Since 1767, it has manufactured luxury fabrics for the finest fashion houses and exports to 23 countries. The success of Joshua Ellis, begins with its meticulous sourcing of high quality, precious fibres such as cashmere, camel and vicuna. Then, a number of perfected and exacting production processes create cloth of supreme quality.

It is a member of the Sustainable Fibre Alliance which works with the cashmere supply chain to preserve and restore grasslands, ensure animal welfare and secure the livelihoods of herders.

[www.joshuaellis.com](http://www.joshuaellis.com)



## ABBOTSFORD

TEXTILES

**Abbotsford Textiles are a leading design and manufacturer of high-quality woven fabrics, for use across commercial and domestic interiors. All of our fabrics meet contract regulations, and manufactured to withstand the toughest environments across a variety of sectors.**

Holding both ISO 9001 Quality Management and ISO 14001 Environmental Management Certification, they are committed to reducing waste and limiting environmental impact while maintaining a scrupulous quality management system.

[www.abottsford-textiles.co.uk](http://www.abottsford-textiles.co.uk)

# Production



**ROBERTS  
DYERS & FINISHERS  
LIMITED**

**With a heritage stretching back to 1900, Roberts Dyers & Finishers is one of the leading cloth finishers in the world.**

They specialise in dyeing and finishing fine quality British fabrics for the clothing and furnishing industries. Using both traditional and modern techniques, the Roberts team can provide supremely accurate colour-matching and create unique and innovative finishes like Nanosphere and CoolBlack.

Their piece dyeing service is often more responsive and cost-effective than yarn dyeing and they can process wool, cashmere, mohair, linen, viscose, cotton and blends of fibre.

[www.robertsdyers.co.uk](http://www.robertsdyers.co.uk)



**STANLEY MILLS**  
WEAVERS LIMITED  


**Fabric has been woven at Stanley Mills since 1890 and today it is widely acknowledged as one of the UK's finest weavers of worsted cloth.**

The mill is also very proud to be a specialist weaver of fine mohair fabric - one of the few surviving mills that excels in this unique craft. It produces luxurious pure wool and cashmere worsted suitings with a meticulous emphasis on quality.

Stanley Mills is a contemporary success and is renowned for weaving exquisite cloth for the world's most iconic international fashion brands.

[www.stanleymillsweaversltd.co.uk](http://www.stanleymillsweaversltd.co.uk)



**FTS**  
DYERS 

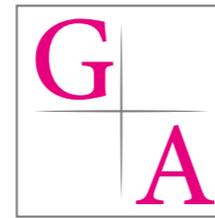
**FTS**  
yarns 

**FTS are at the leading edge of yarn dyeing technology and have invested heavily in state-of-the-art equipment and production methods in recent years.**

Widely recognised as a market leader within the United Kingdom, their high-tech machines are attended by experienced operators who draw on generations of dyeing expertise dating back to 1947. FTS specialise in the package dyeing of woollen yarns, wool blends, luxury protein yarns, synthetics and cellulose.

By stocking over 120 dyes, they offer an exact colour-matching service to all sectors within the textile industry.

[www.fts-dyers.co.uk](http://www.fts-dyers.co.uk)



**George Ackroyd has perfected the craft of mohair combing.**

Generations of specialists have handed down the skills needed to comb mohair and alpaca fibres. To ensure product quality, the process cannot be rushed and George Ackroyd has invested in and developed bespoke machinery to produce the finest product.

The end product bears the hallmark of the George Ackroyd name and is transformed into luxurious goods that are sold at the world's most exclusive fashion outlets.

[www.sealinternational.com](http://www.sealinternational.com)

## Haulage & Logistics



## Cashmere Combing Company

**The Cashmere Combing Company was formed in 2006 and can trace its uninterrupted dehairing production back to 1972.**

CCC processes a number of natural fibres including camel, alpaca and mohair. To avoid fibre contamination, separate rooms are used for machining white and other darker fibres and humidification is strictly controlled to maintain the highest quality product. Specialist processes include blending loose fibres to tops, blending slithers to create colours (using up to 7 gill boxes), making loose fibre into film and breaking a sliver into broken top.

[www.sealinternational.com](http://www.sealinternational.com)



**AG Transport Services operate a modern fleet of Curtainsiders, Box Vans and Articulated Vehicles.**

It has been providing transport services for over 40 years, offering professional cost effective services across the UK. In addition to haulage, AGTS offer a fully computerised stock holding facility and warehousing.

They are a valued member of the group, with a comprehensive understanding of the textile industry which in turn makes them trusted by the worlds most famous brands.

[www.agtransportservices.co.uk](http://www.agtransportservices.co.uk)

# Our values

**The SIL Group was formed by people with a real working knowledge, and passion for the textile industry.**

Our businesses operate with complete integrity. This means dealing honestly with customers, suppliers, partners and our employees to generate trust and peace of mind throughout our worldwide network.

We have built a global reputation for quality, and performance. Many of the finished products we produce can be seen on fashion catwalks across the globe, and found amongst the world's most prestigious tailors and retailers. Alongside a catalogue of contract, and domestic interiors featuring our reputable furnishing cloth.

The quality of our products relies on each stage of our trusted supply chain whose welfare is paramount in the sustainable production of the world's finest fibres, and cloth.

## Sustainability and the Environment

We work with natural fibres and our commitment to good environmental practices is entwined in our DNA. The SIL Group's luxury fibres come from certified sources and we maintain sustainable industrial practices within our mills to offer our customers total peace of mind. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact, promoting animal welfare, and preserving our planet's natural resources.

## Corporate Responsibility

We are committed to creating and maintaining working environments and operational practices that safeguard the health, welfare and safety of our employees and our supply chain. To maintain our market-leading performance, we offer outstanding training and career advancement opportunities to Group employees and aim to retain the most talented people in the textile industry.



[www.silgroup.co.uk](http://www.silgroup.co.uk)

# Our locations



## Head Office

Ladywell Mills  
Hall Lane  
Bradford  
BD4 7DF

Tel: 01274 726 744

## Joshua Ellis

Grange Valley Road  
Grange Road  
Batley  
WF17 6GH

Tel: 01924 350 070

## Luxury Fabrics

Stanley Mills  
Edward Street  
Bradford  
BD4 9RS

Tel: 01274 655 900

## AG Transport Services

Chapel Road  
Low Moor  
Bradford  
BD12 0QW

Tel: 01274 229 020

## FTS Dyers

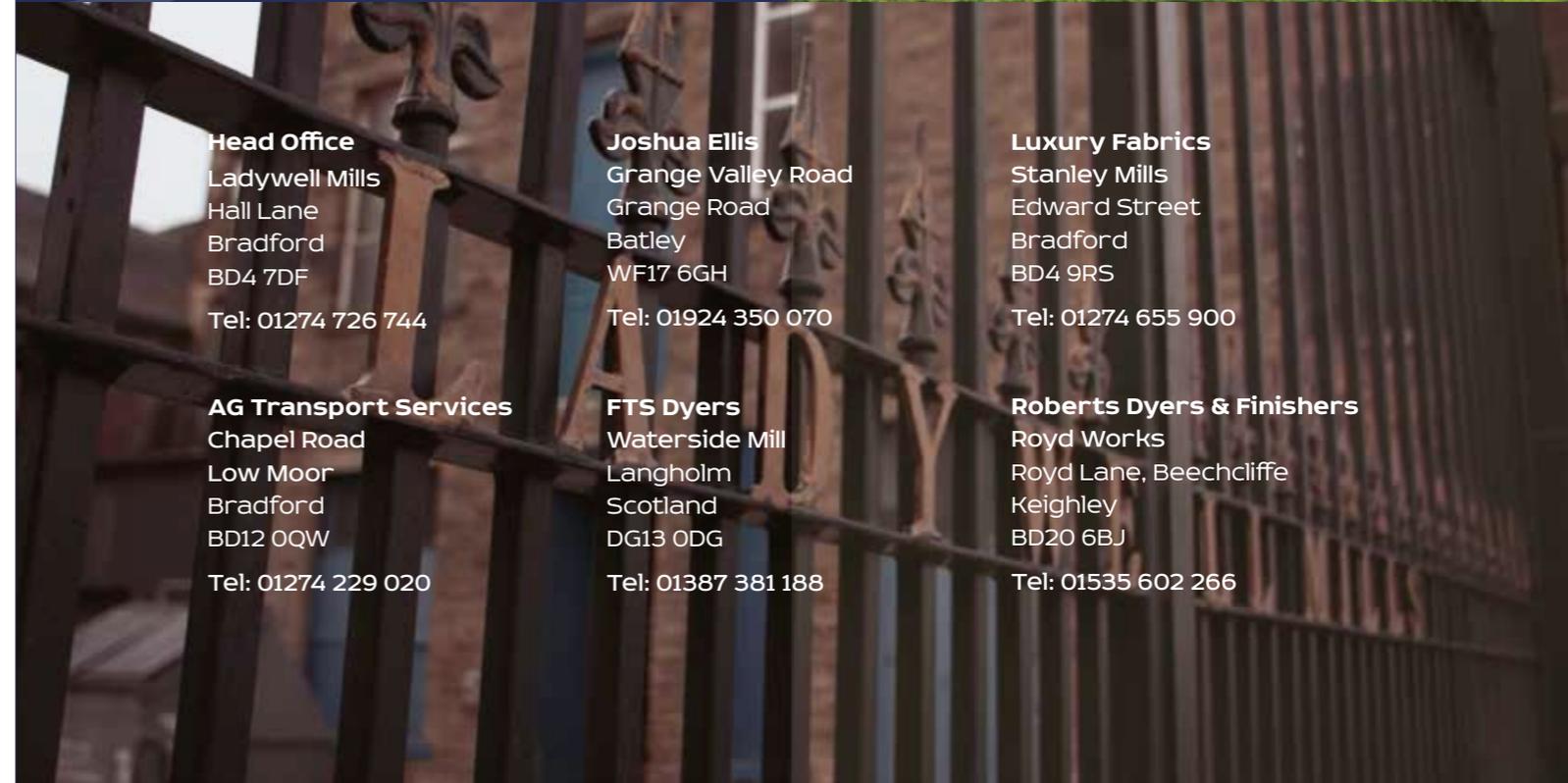
Waterside Mill  
Langholm  
Scotland  
DG13 0DG

Tel: 01387 381 188

## Roberts Dyers & Finishers

Royd Works  
Royd Lane, Beechcliffe  
Keighley  
BD20 6BJ

Tel: 01535 602 266







Ladywell Mills | Hall Lane | Bradford | BD4 7DF

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[www.silgroup.co.uk](http://www.silgroup.co.uk)

The SIL Group is a trading name of SIL Holdings Ltd