

planes and fellow airline Emirates announced a \$2.5bn (£1.26bn) order for eight new A380 aircraft.

Derby, with other operations in Dahlewitz, Germany, and Indianapolis in the US.

include noise and emissions reduction features to ensure that they outperformed environmental legislation.

Picture: SONYA BROWN



JOINT INITIATIVE: Barry Germany, of Foulger Transport, says the transfer centre is in a prime position to serve Norwich.

Freight centre aims to cut city pollution

A freight transfer centre designed to reduce the number of heavy goods vehicles entering Norwich city centre is being set up under a joint initiative between Norfolk County Council and a haulage business.

The tie-up between the council and Foulger Transport aims to cut noise pollution and congestion in the city and improve air quality.

Loads will be consolidated at the Snetterton centre, which should be up and running by August, and then delivered by vehicles with low-emission engines.

It is one of a number of measures being undertaken as part of the Civitas initiative for cleaner and better transport in cities – a scheme co-financed by the EU.

Adrian Gunson, the council's cabinet member for planning

By **ADAM AIKEN**
Senior business writer

and transportation, said: "This freight centre is a great opportunity for businesses to help protect their local environment and ease congestion outside their stores.

"By working together, real benefits can be achieved, and I would urge businesses to investigate whether the scheme can help them and, in turn, help the city of Norwich."

Mike Jackson, director of planning and transportation, added: "I believe this exciting and innovative project offers the potential for businesses to play a part in cutting congestion in Norwich and the council hopes businesses will look seriously into getting involved.

"Clearly, it's very early days,

but if this can grow into a success it would be a positive step forward for the people of Norwich and our thriving business community.

"The ability for deliveries to be made out of hours rather than during the working day when streets are particularly busy would, I expect, be of interest."

Another benefit will be that businesses with limited storage space can use the consolidation centre as a remote stock room, with bulk deliveries made to the facility from which stock can be called up for immediate delivery.

A similar scheme has been running in Bristol since 2004 and 55 retailers have signed up to that project.

Barry Germany, director of Foulger Transport, said: "We are delighted to have this opportunity to work with

Norfolk County Council and the business community in Norwich to develop this project.

"The centre is located in a prime position on the A11 corridor and we have full transport and warehousing infrastructure in place to deliver the environmental benefits of a freight consolidation centre for Norwich."

The county council will contribute £123,500 from the Civitas project for set-up costs and promotion to encourage businesses to participate in the scheme, although the day-to-day costs of the service will be met by the scheme's customers.

Businesses that want to find out more about the centre can call Graham Mayes on 01953 715069 or email graham.mayes@foulgers.co.uk.

Fenland pitches for investment from India

A leading Indian business figure has visited Fenland to look at the possibility of bringing hi-tech employment to the district.

The visit was co-ordinated by the Cambridge-based consultancy THINK-India which was set up to facilitate two-way trade between the East of England and India.

Thak Patel, chief executive of THINK-India, said: "The Fenland visit was

the region has to offer.

"He remarked to us that due to its close proximity to Cambridge and London but lower potential set-up and running costs, there was a definite advantage to be in the Fens and that he would encourage Indian businesses to look at this opportunity closely."

Clive Gibbon, who heads the business development team at Fenland Council, said: "India is building its economy

type of business.

"We have taken readings of market demand and embarked on plans to build a number of office schemes that befit the area – not the usual low-tech sheds that are often provided. We want to demonstrate how keen we are to see international businesses move here."

Council leader Geoff Harper said the interest from the Indian delegation was

The former music duo's troubled go pay-off, yesterday.

EMI's announced that handed the pound cash his £912,000 was ousted plummeting profits war

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He also re share opt group's lor plan, which up to a year for six months change in o

The drop price, however of the option

Details of as EMI is facing a attempt from Music, which challenge the sale to private Terra Firma

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But rival V not ruled o with rum weekend st planning to higher £2.5b

Major discovery for T

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