# Barron McCann opens state-of-the-art innovation hub in Derby



A prominent technology company has unveiled a cutting-edge innovation hub at its headquarters in Derby, demonstrating advanced solutions that are transforming the retail, stadium, and hospitality sectors. Barron McCann, a firm that serves clients such as Pets at Home, Papa Johns, and Iceland, created this state-of-the-art facility to allow customers and partners to experience firsthand the technologies that are shaping the industry.

The Innovation Hub showcases a range of technologies, including systems for loss prevention, smart checkouts, hospitality point-of-sale solutions, and measures for colleague safety. It also highlights sustainability initiatives, such as electric vehicle (EV) chargers, which aim to enhance customer experiences, improve operational efficiency, and promote green practices.

The opening ceremony was conducted by Barron McCann's Executive Chairman and Owner Alan Watson, attended by representatives from key partner organisations, stakeholders, and community figures. Notably present was Derby North MP Catherine Atkinson, who toured the centre after referring to Barron McCann in a recent debate in Westminster concerning IT in the retail sector. During the ceremony, Watson emphasised the importance of collaboration, stating, "At Barron McCann, our people, customers and partners are at the heart of everything we do."

The Hub also creates learning opportunities for students in partnership with local schools and universities, designed to inspire the next generation with hands-on exposure to the latest technologies. Companies represented in the Hub include VoCoVo, which leads in wireless headset communication, and InCaptiv, experts in WiFi solutions. SML, a company that supplies three billion radio frequency identification (RFID) tags annually to the retail sector, has a display alongside Bizerba, known for its innovations in retail and logistics hardware and software.

Among the highlights of the Hub is a functional bar area demonstrating technology from Kappture, which provides cloud-based Electronic Point of Sale (EPOS) and mobile payment systems. Barron McCann's in-house specialists were responsible for constructing the space, which serves as a model for integrating smart retail solutions like automated checkouts with robust networking and infrastructure cabling.

Alan Watson further elaborated on the Hub's purpose, stating, "It’s genuinely a space where ideas come to life and the future of technology takes shape. We are able to showcase our partner solutions and some of the homegrown Barron McCann services too, including our recently launched electric vehicle charging solutions. Seeing the latest innovations in one place and being able to discuss tailored strategies with experts is invaluable."

This new facility exemplifies Barron McCann's dedication to advancing not only their own business operations but also the broader landscape of the industries they serve.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://barronmccann.com/blog/2025/02/03/introducing-the-barron-mccann-innovation-hub/> - This URL supports the claim about Barron McCann launching a cutting-edge Innovation Hub at its Derby headquarters, showcasing advanced retail and hospitality solutions.
* <https://barronmccann.com/about/> - This URL provides background information on Barron McCann, including its mission and role as a technology company serving major clients.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This URL is the source of the original article discussing Barron McCann's Innovation Hub and its impact on the retail and hospitality sectors.
* <https://www.petsathome.com> - This URL represents one of the major clients of Barron McCann, Pets at Home, highlighting the company's involvement with prominent retail brands.
* <https://www.papajohns.co.uk> - This URL represents another major client of Barron McCann, Papa Johns, further illustrating the company's reach in the retail sector.