

Processors Mapco rise from the ashes of 2012 storms

Factory to be rebuilt more than a year on



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Peterhead fish processing business Mapco has taken a huge step forward on the road to recovery after work began to replace their storm-battered factory.

The company's building at Gerrie's Yard on Peterhead harbour's Keith Inch was flattened by the storm which hit the North-East in December 2012.

Now boss Nasar Rashid has announced work has begun on building a new facility.

Mr Rashid said: "We've appointed Lovies as contractors and work began on the foundations last week.

"The port has been very cooperative, we've had assistance from councillor Anne Allan and Eilidh Whiteford (MP) has also been brilliant."

There were fears in the summer last year that Mapco



Mapco boss Nasar Rashid is delighted Lovies have begun work has begun on his new premises.

would never be able to get back on its feet as it was in conflict with two separate Port Authority projects.

However the port's proposal to build two 300ft wind

turbines in the heart of the harbour, close to the old Mapco site, fell through late last year.

Now the Port Authority has changed its focus and new

plans look set to benefit Mapco and other fish processors in the area.

Mr Rashid said: "With the proposed development of the harbour it's an exciting time,

not just for Mapco but all of us.

"There will be more fish coming in and I'm fully supportive of the new proposals.

All of Mapco's 22 former employees have been told of

the developments and Mr Rashid hopes to bring many of them back to the business.

He also told the Buchanite that the time spent away from processing has allowed his business to diversify and build a 'more structured five-year plan for the company in Peterhead.'

The next step in the construction process is crucial - once the foundations are complete the steel structure of the factory will need to be erected.

Then Mapco hopes to be back in production by the end of the second quarter of 2014.

Mr Rashid added: "Mapco has learnt a lot with what we've gone through.

"We were thrown out of our comfort zone and we've had to adapt to building works and regulations.

"Fortunately everyone has been very supportive, and made this difficult process easier."

Police re-appeal for information regarding North-east ATM incidents

Police have renewed their appeal for information from the public into a series of attempted thefts from ATM machines in the North-east.

Detectives issued a previous appeal for information on the whereabouts of Kevin Charles Schruyers, aged 40.

He was known to have been living in the Aberdeenshire area but information suggested that he may have re-

turned to Liverpool and could be in the Huyton or Kirkby areas of the city.

Detective Inspector Graeme Mackie said: "We are renewing our appeal for information on the whereabouts of Kevin Schruyers and have appealed for anybody who recognises his description to come forward.

"So far, this investigation has involved a great deal of work by our team

of officers and we wish to thank members of the public for coming forward with any information.

"Although a good bit of work has already been done, we would still like to appeal to the public to come forward if they have any more information which they believe may be of assistance to us, in particular in tracing Kevin Schruyers."

Anyone with information regarding his whereabouts is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 quoting Operation Thrip.

Meanwhile, Robin Vaughan, aged 40, who police previously appealed for information on in relation to the ATM incidents across the North-east, has now been traced.



Kevin Schruyers is wanted in connection with the ATM incidents