## Expansion by Code Serve will create 50 jobs in Brynmawr with support from the Welsh Government

Code Serve provides comprehensive and specialist fabrication and coded welding services nationwide and provides structural steelwork for major infrastructure projects around the UK.

It has outgrown its current facility – the former AIC Steel site in Newport where it employed 15 people and has relocated to the former Tecweld building on Noble Square Industrial Estate in Brynmawr.

The investment, which is just under  $\pm 1m$  and includes the purchase of new equipment, is backed by  $\pm 400K$  from the Welsh Government's Repayable Fund for SMEs.

The company has already created 20 of the 50 jobs and taken on a number of people who were employed by AIC Steel which went into administration last year.

The news has been welcomed by Economy Secretary Ken Skates who said:

"I am delighted support from this Fund is enabling the company to accelerate its expansion plans to meet the growing demand for its services.

"This investment is not only a boost for the steel sector, which is a top priority for the Welsh Government, but it will create a significant number of jobs, offering a wide range of career opportunities which is great news."

Managing Director Dan Dark, who established the business in 2009, said: "This is an exciting opportunity for the business which has seen year on year growth and marks a new chapter in its development. Our new premises will play a key role in helping us achieve our medium and long term growth goals.

"We would not have been able to proceed at this time without support from the Welsh Government and we look forward to taking on new staff and creating new jobs. I am pleased that we have already taken on some former AIC Steel employees who were made redundant when the company went into administration last year."

The new 37,000 sq ft. facility can accommodate the company's expansion plans and comprises a detached single storey industrial unit with a two storey office section, modern extensions and a goods yard. The building, previously used for heavy steel fabrication, is equipped with all necessary lifting equipment to handle large scale projects with space to undertake additional processes in-house.

The investment in new equipment and larger premises will result in more efficient manufacturing process and expand its capability by offering processes such as shot blasting, testing and painting that are currently outsourced.

Code Serve operates at the higher end of the fabrication spectrum and is one of few businesses to achieve the high level accreditation of Execution class 4 for CE marking in fabrication and welding. It has provided coded welders to support the development of Hinkley C Nuclear power plant, an area of work that is anticipated to grow significantly. Other large projects include the new roof on court 1 at Wimbledon, new stand at Anfield stadium, various cross rail sites in London and the new northern hub at Ordsall chord Manchester.