

**KIDLINGTON:** Car retailer Hartwell has opened a Seat dealership at the Oxford Motor Park.

The six car showroom forms part of a multi-franchise site which also includes Renault, Dacia, Citroen and commercial vehicles.

A total of £1.2m has been spent on refurbishing the outlet and 10 staff, including specialist sales management and two new sales executives, will be dedicated to the brand.

General manager Patrick Lawrence said: "Seat UK is extremely pleased that we have moved in here and we are equally delighted to be working with one of the most professional companies we've dealt with."

Pictured (rear from left) are Ian Crook, general sales manager, Alex Gayton, sales controller, Graeme Hope, Used car sales manager Front: Patrick Lawrence, group general manager, (left), and Paul Lacey, Seat sales specialist.



**OXFORD:** High-tech firm Microvisk Technologies has moved into the Oxford Business Park. The business which employs 30 staff has occupied 869 sq ft of office space in Building 7600, The Quorum.

Founded in 2004, Microvisk initially conducted some of its research at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Harwell.

Slava Djakov, director of sensor development, said: "As Microvisk is entering a new project phase focusing on technological advancement, there was a clear need for a more convenient and efficient office to meet the demands of our company. Oxford Business Park is an ideal location for us."

James Raven, development director at Goodman UK Business Parks which owns the site, said: "Microvisk is one of the region's great success stories and we are delighted that its team has chosen Oxford Business Park to continue its research and development activities."



**FARINGDON:** Property industry software specialist VTUK has picked up a second award in 12 months.

The business won silver in the best supplier category at the Estate Agency of the Year Awards, following after topping the same category at the Lettings Agency of the Year Awards earlier this year.

Chief executive Peter Grant said: "It is great to be the only software company acknowledged, which adds to our sense of achievement."

Pictured from left are broadcaster Penny Smith, who presented the awards, Peter Grant chief executive of VTUK, Adam Rackham, Chief Information officer at VTUK and Lynn Cannell, LCA Recruitment (the award category sponsors).



**COMBE:** Michael von Hruschka has been appointed head chef at The Cock Inn. The Michelin starred chef has worked all over the world at leading hotels including the Oriental in Bangkok, the Four Seasons in Toronto and the Okura in Tokyo. He was previously chef proprietor at the award-winning Birdcage restaurant in London. He said: "The Cock Inn is a fantastic Cotswolds pub in a great location and I am looking forward to developing the kitchen to its full potential."



**OXFORD:** Jane Robinson, a senior associate in the private client department of Henmans Freeth, got top marks in a professional exam. She gained an A+ mark for her Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) thesis on the subject of estate accounts and the provision of information to beneficiaries. As a result, she has gained full membership of STEP, the professional association for practitioners dealing with family inheritance and succession planning.



**OXFORD:** Sam De Silva, a partner specialising in information technology and outsourcing at the Oxford office of leading UK law firm Penningtons Manches, has been appointed to the EU Commission's expert group on cloud computing contracts. Dr De Silva was nominated by the Law Society of England and Wales to represent the legal profession on the expert group and is the only private practice lawyer from the UK to be included on the panel.



**OXFORD:** Law firm Henmans Freeth has appointed Lynne Foster to its criminal negligence team as a senior associate. Ms Foster has moved from Thomson Snell & Passmore solicitors in Tunbridge Wells. Clinical negligence partner Carolyn Lowe said: "Lynne will be an invaluable addition to our clinical negligence team. She brings with her a wealth of experience in dealing with clinical negligence claims and has carved out an excellent reputation for helping clients."