

Darlington company celebrating 10 years of high-profile success

by [Iain Laing](http://www.nebusiness.co.uk/authors/iain-laing/) (<http://www.nebusiness.co.uk/authors/iain-laing/>), [The Journal](http://www.journallive.co.uk/) (<http://www.journallive.co.uk/>)

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A MOBILE freezer company has picked up high-profile clients, including Take That, the House of Lords and the Royal Shakespeare Company over the last 10 years.

And now it says it has become a bit of an emergency service after coming to the aid of businesses and

hotels that found themselves in hot water when cold storage broke down.

Middlesbrough Sausage, which has operated a trailer seven days a week in the town centre for the past 11 years, was in danger of losing more than £30,000 worth of stock. But Big Fridge came to the rescue within hours before the frozen sausages could thaw out.

The Darlington company also came to the aid of two branches of the Holiday Inn in Manchester over the weekend.

Managing director Nick Appleyard said: "We were only too pleased to help Middlesbrough Sausage. This sort of breakdown happens a lot in the industry and it's exactly what we are set up to tackle.

"Because our chillers and freezers are mobile and versatile we can be on site very quickly. Many businesses use us for contingency planning and have us on call 24/7 in

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Among Big Fridge's most high-profile customers is Take That, who hired the company to support its caterers at the band's Progress Live 2011 gigs in Sunderland in May.

Nick explained: "We were thrilled to secure the Take That tour. As well as the Sunderland leg – where we supplied the backstage cold storage – we were drafted in as an emergency for the band's Glasgow concerts.

"The National Trust is also a client and uses the freezers for the conservation of valuable tapestries and water-soaked books. The Royal Shakespeare Company used a trailer to manufacture ice stalagmites in moulds for its production of The Merchant of Venice."

Nick started the company with his wife Katrina following their wedding in Australia, where hiring mobile cold storage facilities is common.

Big Fridge trailers have been supplied to the House of Lords, the Women's Rugby World Cup, Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food for the Pass it On project, The British Superbike Championships at Croft Circuit, The Great North Run, The Gadget Show, the Alnwick Castle Summer Concert – and have even been sent to be used by the British Army on exercise in France.

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