

Richard Newell

Operations Manager

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March 23, 2026

David Keane

Walkers (PepsiCo)

Dear David,

I am writing to apply for the Operations Manager position at Walkers' Leicester site. I have nine years of experience in manufacturing and distribution operations, and I currently run the day-to-day production, warehouse, and logistics functions at Samworth Brothers. A 140-person chilled food manufacturing facility turning over £22 million annually and supplying Tesco, Sainsbury's, and M&S.

At Samworth Brothers, I reduced unit production cost by 8.3% over two years through lean manufacturing initiatives, improved on-time delivery from 91% to 98.7% by restructuring dispatch scheduling, and cut staff turnover from 34% to 12% through structured onboarding and quarterly performance reviews. I ran eight kaizen events focused on changeover times, waste, and line balancing, and trained 22 team leaders in 5S methodology. Before that, at DHL Supply Chain, I managed a team of 65 warehouse operatives and led a slotting optimisation project that reduced average pick time by 22%, saving £140,000 annually. I also planned and executed peak season operations processing 180,000 orders in a single week with zero SLA breaches.

Walkers' Leicester site operates at a scale and pace that matches my experience, and the FMCG supply chain pressures. Tight margins, supermarket delivery windows, food safety standards. Are ones I deal with daily. I hold a NEBOSH certificate, Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, and the ILM Level 5 in Leadership and Management.

Sincerely,

Richard Newell