



UK: Negative results sink Asda's gas station expansion

British supermarket chain Asda has buried plans of opening a whole load of gas stations stores after suffering a significant set-back in sales.

Asda was planning to strengthen its gas station network by jumping from their current 17 sites to around 150 by 2018.

The rollout of more click-and-collect sites, where internet shoppers can pick up their goods, has also been put on hold on the back of the supermarket's biggest sales slump in its 50 years of history.

Most of the £900m (\$1.4 billion) planned investment for the next 18 months will now be channelled to speeding-up the revamp of 95 big stores in the UK.

Asda maintains its commitment to growing in the fuel retailing sector, as well as expanding its click-and-collect stores, but admits it will now take longer to achieve the desired results.

According to company officials, Asda has had to change its five-year business plan because of the fierce competition from the discount supermarkets, led by Germany's low-cost retailers Aldi and Lidl, reported The Guardian.