



Solutions News

Helping all links in the injection moulding supply chain

SPRING 2006

Welcome to the first issue of Solutions News, keeping you up to date with all our latest product and application news.

DMS-Diemould is the UK's largest manufacturer and distributor of precision engineered standardised components for injection moulding and die-casting tools.

Our product range of over 12000 items, 75% of which are manufactured by group companies, includes plates, pillars and bushes, ejector pins, ejector sleeves and flat ejectors.

Complementary products, including mechanisms, date stamps, hot runner systems, temperature controllers, cooling and heating and insulation items are also available and new products are regularly being developed.

We are committed to producing and delivering quality products on time at competitive prices – providing our customers, around the world, with that all-important competitive edge.

DMS launches powerful unscrewing units for UK moulders



Now available in the UK from DMS-Diemould, new precise, sturdy and cost efficient unscrewing devices from Exaflow are offering significant productivity gains to moulders.

With a rapid unscrewing action driven by a powerful hydraulic motor, the units can demould both right and left hand threads as well as supporting long thread depths. The units are suitable for volume production as they require minimal maintenance and they can be retro-fitted to existing tools.

The thread core mounts in the core holder via a common 16mm diameter shank system and the thread guide nut and core holder are supplied with the thread pre-machined to the customer's specifications, matching the thread to be moulded. The thread depth is determined by a fixed stop on the mould and each unit comes with high precision induction sensors.

Braun gains benefit of fit-together multi-tip nozzle

Major international healthcare supplier, B Braun Corp., is using Heitec Star-line nozzles – available in UK from DMS-Diemould – to manufacture vestige-free plastic moulded 0.2g protective caps, with a cycle time of only 4 seconds, at its plant in Melsungen.

The development of these innovative nozzles posed a special challenge - nozzles with edge gates are usually of single-piece design requiring complex nested mould elements, so, to avoid this, Heitec created a completely new design combining the advantages of both single and multi-nozzles.

Fitting together like a construction kit, the cylindrical body of the nozzle is first assembled from the rear in the mould. After this has been fixed and electrically wired, the tips are easily

assembled from the front of the mould by means of handles and this activity can take place either at the work bench or directly at the injection-machine.

A further benefit of the Star-line nozzle is its ease of maintenance, as only the tips need to be disassembled avoiding the requirement to deconstruct the entire mould.

Star-line fit-together multi-tip nozzles ensure that edge gated plastic parts are completely free from cavity assembly split lines.





Tooling at Cheswell

Automotive toolmaking lead-times slashed with DMS

Maidenhead-based Cheswell Engineering has earned a reputation for supplying quality automotive tooling in short lead-times. MD Ken Whittaker explains one reason for the firm's success; "We buy our bolsters ready machined from DMS – that lets us use our toolmaking skills on producing more tools in shorter times." In one recent example the company completed the design and manufacture of a £0.5m suite of 27 multi-cavity tools in less than four months, with the first tool within 8 weeks - using high accuracy, fully machined DMS bolsters.

Cheswell Engineering Ltd. is a family-owned firm, established nearly 50 years ago, which currently employs 23 staff and specialises in designing and manufacturing injection mould tools for the automotive sector. The company's customers include Tier 1 and 2 suppliers to many of the major automotive marques including: VW, Ford, Audi and BMW, for whom it creates tooling for interior and exterior trim as well as under-bonnet mouldings. In addition to the automotive sector, Cheswell also supplies tooling for electrical and household appliance components.

The company's client base is mainly within the UK and naturally, in today's fiercely competitive market, it has to win business against low-cost overseas competitors – which is why short delivery times are so important. By working together with DMS, Cheswell can concentrate all its toolmaking resources on the key value-added

skills, and so provide its customers with the short lead-times they are looking for with the added advantage that, being local, customers can easily visit the toolroom and discuss work in progress or modifications.

In short lead-time projects, reliability of supply is crucial, particularly in this type of work, where the DMS components, both off-the-shelf and specifically manufactured to Cheswell's designs, are key elements in the finished product. As the UK's largest manufacturer and distributor of precision engineered standardised components for use in injection moulding and die-casting tools DMS prides itself on its extensive product range - over 12000 items, stock availability and dedication to customer satisfaction, providing the products and services that enable companies like Cheswell to compete successfully against suppliers around the world.

"We buy our bolsters ready machined from DMS – that lets us use our toolmaking skills on producing more tools in shorter times."

DMS-Diemould Invests in Portable Measurement Solution

DMS-Diemould is the UK's largest manufacturer and distributor of precision engineered standardised components for use in injection moulding and die-casting tools. The group manufactures three quarters of its 12000-item product range, including plates, pillars and bushes, ejector pins, ejector sleeves and flat ejectors, as well as developing new products.

The production work is carried out by the group's engineering division, at its purpose built facility in Exmouth Devon, by a skilled staff of 90 people. Operations Manager, Mr. Gary Lomas, had a requirement to improve the company's measurement capability from traditional height gauges and hand tools. "Our initial thoughts were

to invest in a traditional Coordinate Measuring Machine (CMM) as the standard solution to our three dimensional measurement requirements. However, when we saw an article on the portable measuring device from Faro, we decided to take a more detailed look by having an on site demonstration.

"The demonstration proved to us that the portable CMM solution had a number of advantages; it could give us more flexibility as it could be moved around the factory and it also took up less space than conventional CMM equipment. In addition, the software was very easy to use and the product was rugged enough to be used on the shop floor"



Toolmaker fights back using DMS hot runners

A Nottinghamshire toolmaker is retaliating in the face of increased competition from the Far East by using cost effective standard parts and hot runner systems.



Based at Kirkby-in-Ashfield, AL Tools was founded 27 years ago as a manufacturer of injection mould tools and die casting dies. Today the company employs 11 people and is ISO9002 accredited. While AL Tools has used DMS standard mould tool ancillary parts such as plates, pins, pillars, bushes and ejector pins for many years, the transition to using DMS hot runner systems was only recent. "We were looking for a really good UK-based service," explains director Peter Riley, assistant to the managing director, "and we appreciated the fact that the DMS hot runner systems were very competitively priced."

AL Tools now uses DMS for all of its standard part and hot runner requirements. The latest example is an eight-impresion mould tool with a hot runner system on the back that will produce closures for a rolled cardboard tube. DMS will complete all the wiring and testing of the system on site and if required will attend first off tool trials.

Although this example is fairly small in size (cap diameter is 24mm), AL Tools can manufacture tools up to 7.5 tonnes for a diverse range of industries, including automotive and food.

"Apart from competitive prices, one of the principal benefits of using DMS is the service," says Mr Riley. "If one of our customers required a spare or replacement part, DMS will get the item in the post to us the same day, which is invaluable to companies like ours where lead-times are vital. The market is really tough these days: because of Far East competition there are probably 30 per cent less opportunities than there were 10 years ago, which means we have to be as competitive as possible on both price and delivery if we are to progress. Standard parts and hot runners from DMS have proved regularly to be one of the best ways of achieving some of our goals without compromising quality."

Tool at AL Tools with DMS-Diemould hot runner system

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"The machine also suited our production requirements as we manufacture a lot of "one off" custom machined mould bases and complete hot runner hot halves, which means that a traditional CMM offers no benefits in terms of speed. We can also inspect parts whilst they were still set up in the machine tool, verifying they are correct before we move them and lose their positioning data."

Gary concluded; "There were significant cost savings with the Faro Gauge without any compromise on accuracy – it suits our requirements perfectly and allows us to give our customers a simple inspection report verifying our parts are fit for purpose."



Faro arm installed at DMS's Devon factory

1ST

DMS has consistently been a market leader in new product development with innovations that have benefited moldmaking worldwide.



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Dates for your diary

Moldmaking Expo 2006

April 25-26, 2006 - Novi MI

Booth #620

www.moldmakingexpo.com/index.html

NPE 2006

June 19-23, 2006 - Chicago IL

East Building Booth #10546

www.npe.org

PDM - Plastics Design & Moulding 2006

September 26-28, 2006 - Telford UK

www.pdmevent.com

Massplastics 2006

October 25-26, 2006 - Fitchburg MA

Booth #702/704

www.massplastics.com

CAMM Moldmaker Trade Fair

November 9, 2006 - Windsor ON

www.camm.ca

News from Stateside

When we got the go-ahead for the DMS North American web site we knew we had to do a great job - in the USA only the best will do!

With so many years in the business, we knew precisely what our customers wanted and we created what we believe is the most user-friendly web site in our industry.

So come on over and visit us at www.dmscomponents.com

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