



**KNIGHT**  
PRECISION  
MOULDING

## Supplier integration and space saving

### Project

Supplier integration and space saving

### Client Sector

Air management

### Service(s) supplied

Plastic injection mouldings

### Location

South Wales



### Background

This major client had undergone rapid expansion and found its existing plastic injection moulded supply chain system could not keep up, presenting numerous challenges. By receiving weekly deliveries in pallet quantities and being forced to insure against quality issues (relating to a previous supplier) by keeping significant extra stock to hand in case of a rejected batch, the client found itself running out of storage space.

This presented four options: move premises (costly and disruptive); reduce stock (potentially risky to production process); off-site storage (expensive and difficult to control); or seek a new, more flexible supplier.

### Project

By keeping stocks of up to 150 pallets on-site at any one time, the client found its operations restricted in terms of space and production process efficiency.

The client turned to Knight Precision Moulding to come up with a cost-effective solution that integrated with its own processes, taking into account the inherent complexities of dealing with 120 different lines, mouldings and sub-assemblies.

Knight's solution was based on a Kanban system whereby flow lines and rolling racks were introduced, along with deliveries that took place three times a week. To save the customer space, Knight built up stocks at its own warehouse facility, utilising a computerised stock control system to assess run requirements, take orders and ensure delivery within 48 hours. This system removed the goods-inward part of the client's process by splitting deliveries in line with their intended destination within the production line.

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As the client tends not to be given a good deal of forward-notice regarding its customer orders, careful planning and estimation is required to ensure the new Kanban system keeps the process adequately stocked, without resorting to the old position of over-stocking.

### Added value

Knight Precision Moulding called upon its sister company Knight Precision Tooling (KPT) to aid with further issues faced by the client, in particular by identifying ageing tools and keeping a record of which tools had experienced issues. KPT also improved all tooling (removing the need for deflashing) and refurbished the most problematic tools. Knight brought some component printing and sub-assembly in-house to relieve pressure on the client.



**“Working closely with our clients we have enabled a major reduction in their manufacturing and storage floor space requirements.”**

**Tim Wegener, MD**

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