



YOUR PARTNER FOR PRECISION ENGINEERING

MANUFACTURING PRECISION COMPONENTS FOR OVER 60 YEARS, PARKER PRECISION HAS BUILT UP A SOLID CUSTOMER BASE IN THE AEROSPACE, OIL, DEFENCE, ELECTRONICS AND MEDICAL INDUSTRIES

The UK's manufacturing industry continues to be a fundamental part of the national economy, serving multiple sectors and in various guises. Taking care to preserve the UK's reputation in the sector with quality imbued, Parker Precision has brought new vision to the table and has considerably raised the bar in the precision engineering stakes.

Established in 1952 as a small tools manufacturer in the local lock industry, Parker Precision has since become a key player in the

precision engineering sector following diversification into, first, the aerospace industry and, later, sectors including oil and gas, defence, electronics and medical. Now equipped with the latest CNC machines, the company only grows in confidence, determined to retain its leading position at home in the West Midlands.

A key factor in Parker Precision's enduring success has been its commitment to investment, concentrating, in particular on improving the precision and speed at which complex components can be produced. The company has, for

decades taken great pride in offering services which are exactly what the customer expects of the modern manufacturing sector and continual investment forms a major part of that ambition. Just this year, Parker Precision became the first UK firm to purchase a STAR SV-38R – a high-speed, precision machine from the world's leading supplier. The new machine forms part of Parker Precision's £500,000 investment in state-of-the-art machinery and comes alongside the acquisition of two STAR SV-20RIV. The two are now housed and operational at the



company's factory in Bilston, and will provide the company greater production capacity as well as the ability to machine components up to 38m/m diameter.

Phil Parker, Director at Parker Precision, said the acquisition was as much as necessity as it was an expression of the company's commitment to the future. "We bought our first STAR model back in 2013. It was such a success and such a hit with our operatives, that it became apparent we would have to get another."

The machines are not only the latest in fast and precise fabrication but, as multi-axis units, they are also capable of conducting multiple operations either alone or simultaneously. This, in turn, has allowed Parker Precision to optimise the workflow of its production facilities by mitigating the need to multiple machines and the time associated with moving components from machine to machine. The multi-axis STAR machinery also prevents potential mistakes or

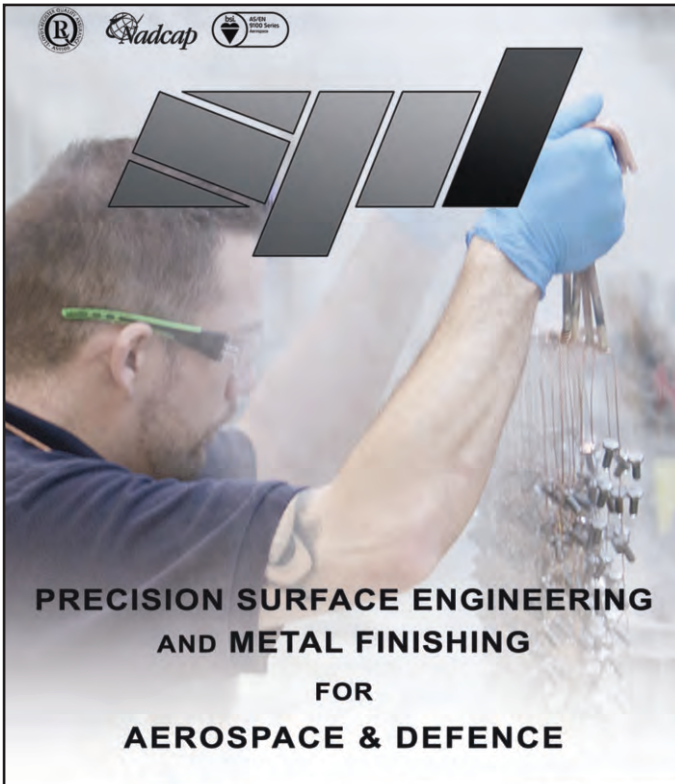
defects being introduced during conveyance. This philosophy has also been used with the purchase of the Mazak machines purchased since 2,011 for the larger components.

What has been a relatively short-term investment is hoped to bring long-term advantages to the company as it works toward raising its profile across various industries. And, indeed, there are few sectors that wouldn't gain from Parker Precision's embedded philosophy of quality and excellence. Operating in line with ISO9001 and AS9100 rev C, as well as individual customer requirements, Parker Precision takes quality to the highest level, understanding that, while speed is imperative, products must first and foremost be correct. In witness to those efforts, the company maintains a low rate of non-conformances despite increasing production output.

More than either superior quality or speed however, it's in Parker Precision's width of

services and competencies that the reason behind its long success becomes apparent. Not only is the company capable of small and large volume production – from one-off prototyping to 2,000 batch regulars – and in a range of materials, but the firm has also able to carry out full-assembly having formed a number of strong relationships with key suppliers. In partnership with an accredited aerospace supply chain, Parker Precision is able to deliver heat treatment, surface treatments, EDM and spark erosion as well as welded assembly – acting as a one-stop-shop in precision engineering.

In that same vein of collaboration, Parker Precision is a long-standing member of Midlands Aerospace Alliance (MAA) and is therefore provided invaluable networking opportunities in the aerospace sector. "Membership with MAA has been critical in providing us with access to strong leads and sales inquiries," reveals Phil Parker. "Whilst



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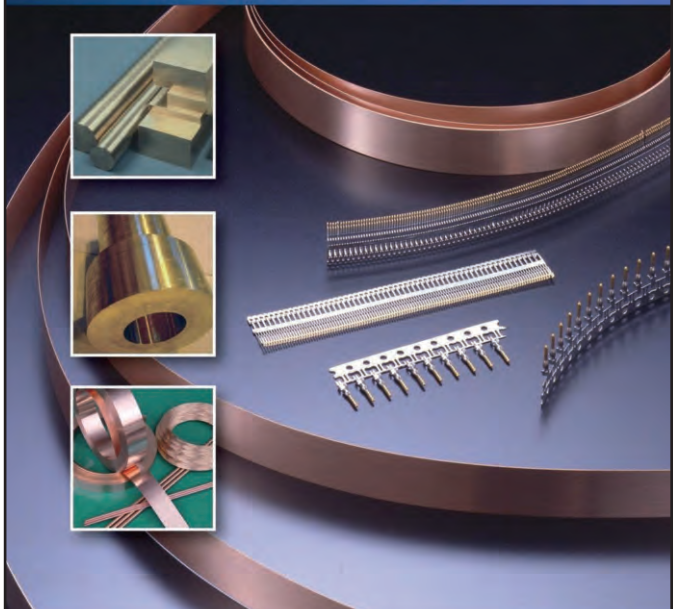
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we have a long history in the sector, having manufactured parts for Concorde planes in the 60s and 70s, it's been important that we continue to assert our capability in the sector and MAA membership has been a means a do that."

Of course, beneath accreditation and competencies lies a dedicated and highly-qualified team; at one in the same time as investing in new machinery, Parker Precision continues to spend time upskilling its workforce. With years of experience on their side, team members are also familiar with the latest in policy and practice and uphold a strong 5S health and safety policy. Recognising the value of new minds and determined to inspire younger generations to consider a career in the sector, the company also boasts an apprenticeship recruitment programme – something Parker is incredibly proud of.

"As a relatively small company, being able to train apprentices and contribute to the future of the industry as a whole is a real achievement and something we're keen to continue," asserts Phil Parker. "With the current skills shortages, employing apprentices is absolutely vital and, in a fast-progressing industry, they're able to bring new knowledge and fresh ideas to the table."

Embracing change wholeheartedly and armed with the latest technologies with which to do so, Parker Precision is fast-becoming a pioneer in the sector, in terms of both practice and product. Despite prolonged diversification and improvement however, the company's core ethics of quality and service excellence have yet been preserved, and Parker Precision will continue to set the standard from which all others can learn.

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