

The EDGE

Technical Moulding, Intelligent Polymer Selection and Lean Supply Chain Solutions

Leading manufacturer of orthopedic instruments chooses Tex Plastics



With an extensive white room and clean room cell, Tex Plastics, Barnstaple has enjoyed long term relationships with medical device manufacturers.

More recently the business has won contracts to produce housing for specialist medical equipment for the worlds' leading manufacturer of powered orthopedic instruments.

Innovation is the key

Helping develop and produce solutions for a rapidly changing global healthcare market requires innovative thinking and a collaborative approach. Working with the medical device manufacturers we've learnt that the aesthetics of the device are often as important as the solution it delivers. Whether the client needs us to create a bacteria resistant surface, a comfortable grip for prolonged use or some other device specification.

Working in partnership always delivers the best results

Our development team is tasked with the technical challenges of the brief, it's their expertise which will help the client to develop the very best product. This is only possible if both the clients' development team and our design team work as one to refine the brief and fully understand all the requirements. Only then can the product be designed for manufacture so it delivers the best possible user experience.

Home Grown Timber

Sophie Hodgson is the latest Apprentice Appointment at Tex Plastics, and joins the Quality Assurance team as a Quality Engineer.

BTEC Level 3 Engineering combined with hands-on experience

Sophie's apprenticeship means she is studying BTEC Level 3 Engineering with Chesterfield College at a facility close to the Derby operation. But more importantly, she's getting in-house training, support and experience from the Quality Assurance team at Tex Plastics Derby. This means she gets a total understanding of how parts are made, the processes they need to go through and the part they play in their application within a finished product.

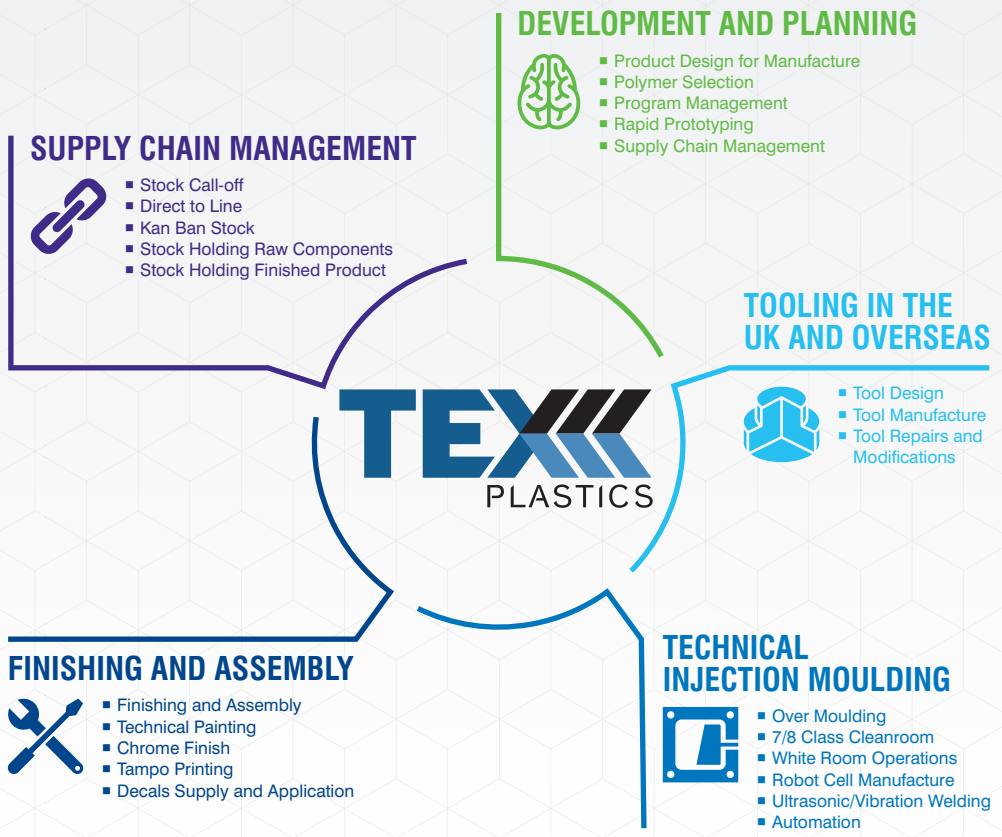
Understanding what's important and what makes it more interesting

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do after leaving school, and was offered a variety of apprenticeship opportunities close to my home in Derby. What appealed to me most with the opportunity at Tex Plastics was the diversity of products made and their applications. I had not really appreciated the work which goes into everyday products found in the home, but whether it's a remote control or kick-plate on a washing machine I now have an insight into how they are manufactured."



Plastic Injection Moulding Solutions

Turnkey solutions managing more processes in-house.



New 650 tonne machine

Additional capacity required at Derby due to increasing orders from a mix of existing customer accounts growing as well as new account wins, has resulted in the purchase of an additional 650 tonne machine and crane.



Reconfiguring the factory to create the space was like a Rubik's cube puzzle

Creating space for the new manufacturing cell has been like solving the Rubik's Cube. We have had to strategically rethink the manufacturing process and explore how we can maximise the efficient use of space. This involved reconfiguring the tool store and maintenance area.

Lack of space has helped us improve efficiency by making us think differently

Rethinking how we work has helped us be more efficient because everything we've done has had to be carefully thought out. This has helped us explore all aspects of what we do, to make things more efficient. Whether it's being logistically dynamic, ecologically aware or having excellent communications with our people. As a result, the business has developed a stronger 'can do' culture and this has helped enormously in overcoming the operational challenges faced.

Helping you innovate at every stage to get a better product

Tex Plastics has continued to evolve and improve its portfolio of services and solutions to help customers get a better product. The feedback customers give us, highlights our cradle to grave solution as our differential. This is because we start any new project by involving our highly technical design engineers. They are highly skilled in delivering added value to any plastic component to be manufactured.

Concept, Prototype or Existing Part

Our technical design engineers will actively look for ways to increase your plastic components performance, remove manufacturing cost, and where required, enhance the finish. Whether it's a concept for prototype or an existing part for manufacture, our approach will help you re-evaluate your costs, lead times and supply chain.

Careers at Tex Plastics



Nobody leaves school with a burning ambition to work in a plastic injection moulding manufacturing facility. This means having to work harder to attract and retain the brightest people with the qualities and attitude we're looking for.

New website and careers section helping us to connect with the right people

We have been an employer in the East Midlands region for a few decades now and have always promoted from within the business wherever possible. So we are able to demonstrate the opportunities for career progression within our business are real and credible. This has been a great attraction to

those seeking jobs, who have drive and ambition but who lack informal qualifications, to provide individuals with the opportunity to grow. It doesn't matter whether it's through an accredited apprenticeship qualification route or our formally structured but unaccredited internal training. With Tex Plastics, if you put in the effort you'll get the opportunity to progress your career, earnings and lifestyle.

Find out how much you could be saving with our **FREE Audit**
Call **0845 250 7321** Barnstaple or **0845 250 7322** Derby

3D printing transforming tooling and injection moulding

Additive manufacturing or 3D metal printing is starting to transform tooling, as complex moulding shapes can now have water cooling channels to enable cooling and fast cycle injection moulding.



The future of tooling is changing

The impact of digital tools has revolutionised every industry it has touched, and now we can see the first signs of it making a difference within the plastic injection moulding and manufacturing process.

It means the moulding process can be re-imagined

One consideration when designing for the manufacture of a plastic component is how we can cool the mould. Machining shapes for moulding and making it faster to manufacture at lower costs has always been limited by the ability to cool the tooling during cycles. It has meant that sometimes designs were compromised to achieve the cooling, especially when shapes involved complex curves. But now, designers are starting to rethink how they can possibly design for injection moulding as the additive manufacturing can integrate cooling channels within the build of the tool.

The future of plastic is bright

The use of this fabulous material will be re-imagined now the design limitations are lifted on tooling designs. The cost-effective use of this ubiquitous material is no-doubt going to continue to develop with the need for lightweight, strong, heat resistant materials as the transition to electric vehicles takes place.

Relocating injection moulding to the UK

When a leading feminine hygiene and washroom services provider reviewed its European injection moulding and supply chain with a view to optimising efficiencies, quality and costs, Tex Plastics were asked to provide a solution.



A combination of rethinking, redesigning and collaborating

Understanding the needs of the customers' service proposition and feminine hygiene bins and sanitary waste disposal services was paramount to the Tex Plastics technical team. Feminine hygiene demands much more than odour control, it must minimise bacteria as well as produce unit designs that maximise the limited space available in washroom cubicles. Working closely to understand our clients' needs, we could develop to exceed their expectations.

Manufactured in the UK has optimised both the products and supply chain

"What Tex Plastics are really good at is looking at a total solution. Where are the savings to be made? How can we reduce expensive stock levels? What can we do to reduce lead times? In addition to the more obvious, how can we possibly improve the product?"

"It's this depth and breadth of approach that helps us work more closely with our clients across all aspects of the supply chain, to ultimately deliver the greatest returns and win contracts like this."

Nigel Partridge

Sales Manager (Barnstaple & Derby)



Tex Plastics New Website Launch

We are very excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website. Visit us at www.tex-plastics.co.uk. After months of hard work and dedication, we are delighted to officially announce the launch at the end of October 2019. We wanted to make the new website faster, easier to navigate, and more user-friendly.

As a design and innovation leader in the field of technical plastic injection moulding, it's important for us to make information regarding our developments, services and trends easily accessible for our current and prospective clients. Our goal with this new website is to provide our visitors with an easier way to learn about Tex Plastics's

services and to browse information based on their own choice. The new website gives better access to our Design to Moulding processes, Post Moulding Operations and our Moulded Plastic Parts News, as well as improved Careers pages. Give us feedback – we'd love to hear what you think of it.



Helping you reduce overall production costs

Tex Plastics Division – healthy growth in challenging times

2019 is proving to be a challenging year for manufacturing in general, with UK factory output dropping off to a seven-year low as Brexit uncertainty rolls on.



Globally, Eurozone and UK manufacturing all contracting

The IHS Markit/CIPS manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) fell to 47.4 in August, down from 48.0 a month earlier – anything above 50 separates growth from contraction. This showed that UK manufacturing activity fell in August to the lowest levels since July 2012. Manufacturing in the Eurozone also contracted for a seventh month in a row in August.

Tex Plastics investment helping us buck the trend

“We live in a time of disruption but where others see difficulty, we see opportunity – not just to survive but to thrive. Through investing in modern equipment, our people and their skills, we’ve expanded our in-house solutions. This has helped us to secure more business as we can control costs, timescales and quality more efficiently.”

Guy Sentance

Manufacturing Director & General Manager

Find out how much you could be saving...



The Free Audit will provide you with a ‘no-obligation’ 360 analysis of your product and supply chain.

TEX pursues optimum streamlining throughout the entire manufacturing process by eliminating non-value added services and enhancing your manufacturing process. This will be under a Non Disclosure Agreement so that you can be assured of complete confidentiality.



Call us with your component needs and we will provide a rapid estimate of what we feel your product could be produced for. If you decide this is of interest then we will proceed to produce a Quick Quote, which will provide you with a binding contracted production price for a set period.



DESIGN TO MOULDING

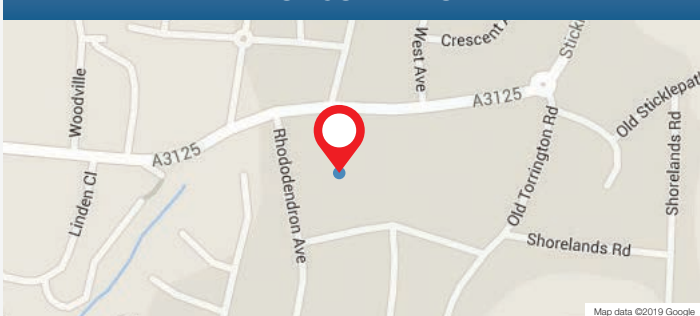


FINISHING & ASSEMBLY



STOCK TO LOGISTICS

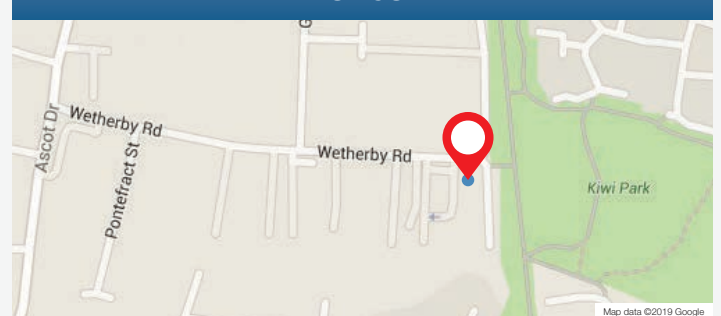
TEX PLASTICS BARNSTAPLE



Tel: 0845 250 7321

Avimore Industrial Estate, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2EU
Fax: 01271 379230 Email: info@tex.co.uk

TEX PLASTICS DERBY



Tel: 0845 250 7322

Wetherby Road, Derby, Derbyshire, DE24 8HL
Fax: 01332 292186 Email: info@texip.co.uk

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