

NEWS RELEASE

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WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK and WHP: Moulding for the healthcare frontline

WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK is primed to supply cleanroom-ready injection moulding machines and all related ancillaries for med-tech device production. ISO 13485 accredited White Horse Plastics Ltd (WHP) is expanding its medical portfolio to meet demand for related components and consumables.



WHP Managing Director Paul Bobby at the injection moulding interface.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK anticipates that once the first wave of the COVID-19 crisis passes, the UK contract-moulding sector will increasingly be involved in med-tech and healthcare manufacture and supply. “Closer engagement with this sector makes sense in all sorts of ways”, says WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK Joint MD, Daniel Williams.

Tracy Cadman, Joint MD says that “in the UK we find ourselves in the middle of a ‘wake up’ call on so many fronts – not least in procurement; the need to shorten the supply chain and time taken to bring devices to market. By any score the UK’s moulding sector has performed very well throughout the pandemic. These new supplier-customer bonds need to last and must be fostered and strengthened for the future.”

A number of existing WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK customers already find themselves in the thick of the UK healthcare storm. White Horse Plastics is expert in tight tolerance technical injection moulding and its current new demands include the manufacture of FeNO (Fractional exhaled Nitric Oxide) mouth-piece assemblies used to assist the diagnosis of asthma and other lung diseases, micro centrifugal test columns and the development of PPE equipment.

The pandemic, however, has brought further factors into the open – including the necessity to educate the newest customers in the details of the manufacturing process. The components they so desperately need are not waiting on shelves – there is a complex development process involved, that many have not considered.

Paul Bobby, WHP MD, says that the process for producing medical and healthcare devices in this emergency “typically begins with a much streamlined version of our WHP design-for-manufacture principles.” This process is faster than pre-pandemic production, but it is still a long time for those hoping for immediate supply on the front line.

“There is a lot of data here for new specifiers and procurers to absorb in a very short time”, he adds, “and particularly in a crisis – but thus far we are meeting our deadlines and getting the job done. I seriously hope that going forward the market will seriously review its supply chain strategy and will take care to source more product closer to home”, says Bobby.

Most of WHP’s injection moulding machinery and ancillary equipment is supplied by WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK. The latter offers its core range of *MicroPower*, *EcoPower* and *SmartPower* moulding machines (15–550 t) in medical versions: All three are available in multi-component format. Minimum emissions are standard and all machines can be upgraded for cleanroom purposes to the EN-ISO 14644 medical standard.

Contact WHP direct for all medical and healthcare manufacturing needs.
www.whitehorseplastics.co.uk

Contact WITTMANN BATTENFELD UK at 01933 275 777
https://www.wittmann-group.com/en_gb.html

The WITTMANN Group is a worldwide leader in the production of injection molding machines, robots and peripheral equipment for the plastics processing industry, headquartered in Vienna/Austria and consisting of two main divisions: WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN. These two divisions jointly operate the companies of the WITTMANN Group with eight production plants in five countries. Additional sales and service companies are active in 34 facilities in important plastics markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD pursues the further expansion of its market position as an injection molding machine manufacturer and specialist for state-of-the-art plastic processing technologies. As a supplier of comprehensive, modern machine technology in modular design, the company meets both present and future market demands for plastics injection molding equipment.

The WITTMANN product portfolio includes robots and automation systems, material handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, temperature controllers and chillers. With this diversified range of peripheral units, WITTMANN offers plastics processors solutions to cover all production requirements, ranging from independent production cells to integrated plant-wide systems.

The integration of these various segments under the umbrella of the WITTMANN Group has led to complete connectivity between the various product lines. This integration has greatly benefited plastics processing users, who are increasingly looking for seamless production, including automation and peripheral functions.

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