

Expansion planned

Having enjoyed record sales of £6 million during the first quarter of its new financial year, KMF (Precision Sheet Metal) — based in Newcastle-under-Lyme — has committed itself to further expansion of its manufacturing plant. Managing director Gareth Higgins says: "These increased sales figures continue what has been a positive trend for KMF. They have put us firmly on track for 15% growth in the current financial year, with much of that being generated through enhancing the partnerships with our existing customers. In particular, we are pleased by the increase we are seeing in the aerospace and medical sectors, where we are working closely with customers and investing to meet specific requirements, to reduce their manufacturing costs, and to improve their profitability."

In the aerospace sector, for example, KMF has increased its turnover on the back of its commitment to investing in specific skill sets, creating dedicated manufacturing teams and gaining accreditations in order to fulfil the requirements of a customer that makes premium aircraft seating. It has taken full responsibility for the manufacture of the chassis of these complex seats, including a Direct Line Feed to ensure that parts are supplied to the assembly facility as and when they are required. Specialist welding skills have also been developed to meet aerospace quality standards.

The increase in demand from the aerospace and medical sectors has led to the purchase of an additional 10,000ft² of production space. This unit will be dedicated to the manufacture of high-technology components and assemblies.