



## Bank offers KMF a helping hand

Precision sheet metal manufacturer KMF ([www.kmf.co.uk](http://www.kmf.co.uk)) has invested over £800,000 in 'state of the art' machinery with the support of Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance. The Newcastle-under-Lyme business is aiming to increase its turnover by £10 million over the next four years and has seen increased demand from the aerospace sector after achieving aerospace standard AS9100 accreditation.

Established in 1971, KMF employs 350 people and has a turnover of £30 million. The markets for its precision metalwork, components and assemblies include aerospace, retail, electrical distribution, medical and defence. Its new equipment includes a Trumpf 7000 combination punch and laser machine (on hire purchase), plus a Trumpf 5000. The company now

has seven fully automated CNC punching and laser machines. Managing director Gareth Higgins says: "It seemed logical to invest in new machinery that will increase our customer base and create profitable growth, and it was important to find a funding partner. The hire purchase facility has enabled us to acquire new machinery without impacting on our cash-flow, as we pay in instalments. We also had the option to learn how to operate the machines and train the team before buying."

Keith Moore, regional manager of Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance, said: "We are proud to be associated with a business of this calibre. Gareth and his team work hard to fulfil client expectations and to provide employment and training opportunities for the local workforce."