

# Silver service

**KMF (Precision Sheet Metal)'s commitment to invest in its SC21 Silver approved Advanced Solutions division is reaping rewards as it has announced further developments of a long-term contract.**

Contour Aerospace, which is now part of Zodiac Aerospace is one of the leading manufacturers of first and business class aircraft seating, particularly in terms of innovation and technology. KMF has been awarded the contract to manufacture components and assemblies for use in premium seating solutions for some of the world's leading airlines.

Like all of KMF's business the Contour project is built on a strong working relationship with its customer and developing manufacturing strategies to meet current and future demands. "With Contour we started by manufacturing relatively simple piece parts, but as part of the KMF/Contour strategy over the past six months we have seen a rationalisation of these parts and a move to supply higher level components and assemblies," says Lyndon Royall, business development



manager, advanced solutions.

The result is that KMF is currently working to transfer high volumes of fabricated parts and larger complex assemblies from Contour's manufacturing site in Cwmbran to the Advanced Solutions facility in Newcastle-under-Lyme to become the main supplier of components and seat assemblies. The most recent additions to KMF's portfolio are three programs for commercial aircraft which are due for release into production later this year.

"Since we started this project with Contour we have seen solid growth in this side of the business, and it fully justifies the investment that KMF has made in this facility," Mr Royall

adds. "With an additional 10,000ft<sup>2</sup> of manufacturing capacity dedicated to the Advanced Solutions facility we are well placed to continue to expand our move into the aerospace sector, providing customers with the confidence that SC21 Silver approval brings, including full material traceability, on-time deliveries and a dedicated workforce and environment for this type of work."

The creation and development of Advanced Solutions is playing a significant role in growing KMF's turnover, which last year topped £30 million. The ability to service niche markets and customers in the demanding areas of aerospace, medical, and defence through this dedicated manufacturing facility is also freeing up space within the company's original manufacturing site where major investment continues, including two state-of-the-art laser processing cells and automated work handling systems.

**KMF (PRECISION SHEET METAL)**

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