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MAJOR INVESTMENT FOR NORTH YORKSHIRE COMPANY

Claro Precision Engineering Ltd, one of the UK's leading manufacturers of specialist metal and plastic components has just completed a £250,000 investment programme aimed at keeping the business at the forefront of the industry.

The North Yorkshire based business, which specialises in precision machined items for the medical, communication, aerospace, defence and security industries, has re-organised its shop-floor and purchased a number of new machines.

Central to the company's new assets is a new CNC Matsuura machine. The RA-1GII, is a fully integrated dual pallet, high speed vertically machining centre which allows products to remain on a pallet whilst being processed. Fully computerised, the system provides fast and reliable tool changing, making it ideal for short batch runs. The new machine compliments two other recently purchased Matsuura machines, which now makes a total of three.

As part of the investment programme, the company has also purchased two 'state of the art' Bridgeport VMC 800's which, together with the new Matsuura, will significantly increase the speed and capacity of production.

Innovated Claro Precision Engineering, which has also just completed a GTMA (Gauge & Tool Makers Association) assessment programme, believes that the recent investments will bring significant advantages to its customers.

Claro Precision PR1 continued:

These include faster production speeds, which are partly due to set up reduction time. The tool change over on each machine is minimised due to the pre-setting facility. Also the surface finish and consistency of product that the new machining centres offer, means less finishing off work is required thus having the knock on effect of offering a number of potential cost savings to the customer.

Two CNC production shifts are now in operation to meet demand and the new investment could lead to the creation of additional employment next year.

As part of the overall investment plan, the shop floor has been completely re-organised in order to improve product flow and productivity. This included designating certain parts of the shop floor for production and the de-commissioning a number of old machines.

Co founder and managing director, Howard Chadwick says: "These new machine investments now allow us to produce an even higher level of component finish and consistency, which has significantly reduced the amount of time needed for finishing. These latest machines are part of an on-going investment programme and further new equipment is expected to be ordered next year."

Claro Precision Engineering's success has been its ability to target the small and medium batch markets, where quality and service are paramount requirements. A full design and build service is provided from initial concept through to prototype and full batch production.

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Claro Precision PR1 continued:

Background Information

Claro Precision Engineering was established in 1978 and operates from purpose built premises in Knaresborough.

The business employs 41 people and produces a wide range of precision items, kits and assemblies. These include medical implants and tools, aerospace components, laser parts and assemblies as well as components for the defence, security, fire protection, sub sea and microwave communications and other industries.

Using a wide range of CNC machining systems including Bridgeport, Kitamura, Hitachi Seiki and three Matsuura high speed CNC machining centers backed up with conventional machining, fitting and assembly. Claro Precision offers one of the most comprehensive subcontract services available for concept to component manufacture.

ISO 9002 approved, the business prides itself on the quality of its production. The level of professionalism offered has enabled Claro Precision Engineering to win contracts with a number of house-hold names.

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