

# Newsletter – Issue 1

June 2010



PCC.eu Ltd was established in September 2009 from the ashes of Precision – Cast Components Ltd after it was forced into administration as yet another casualty of the banking crisis.

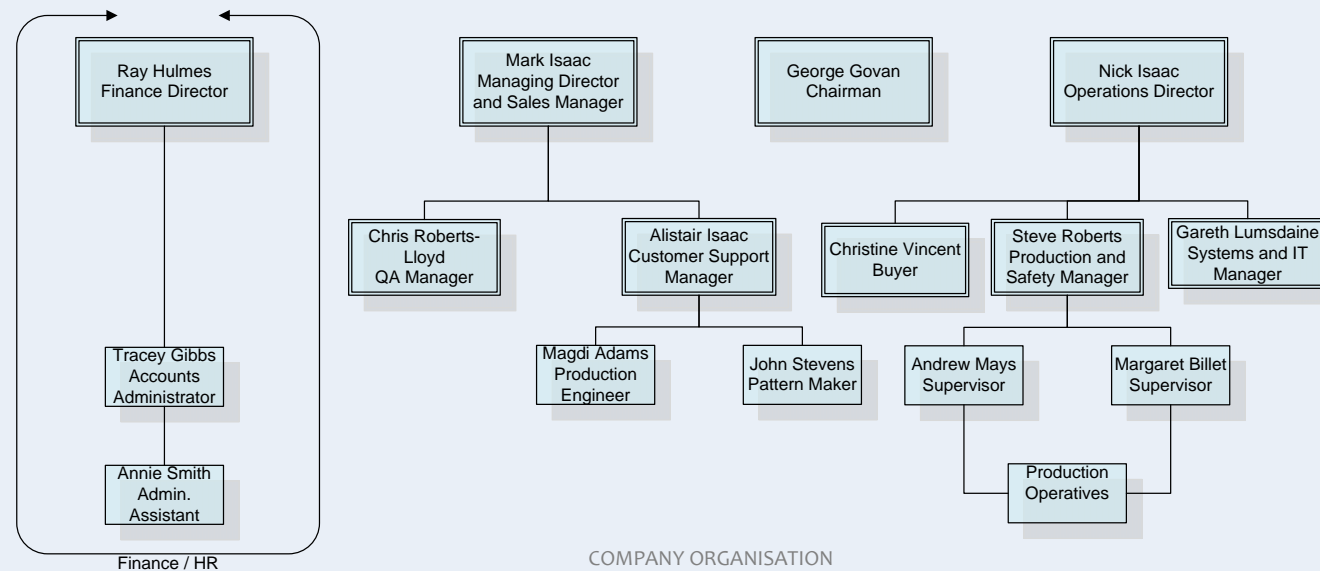
We emerged without our sand foundry but still maintained our pattern shop and technical ability - we use this wealth of knowledge to engage the ideal subcontractor to manufacture the castings, and use our in house facilities to convert to the finished product whether it be a luggage rack or a litter bin.

## Quality, Delivery and Competitiveness

Since the new Company was formed the Board has reviewed the strengths and weaknesses of the old company and concluded that the focus should be on Quality, Delivery and Competiveness.

We have now established a stable talented young management team with an average age of 36 and yet a total of 91 years of industrial experience! A key new appointment is the Quality Manager, Chris Roberts-Lloyd who joined PCC.eu following four years working as a Quality Engineer within the semiconductor industry.

Alongside this position Chris achieved an MSc in Quality and Environmental Management which has accelerated his understanding of quality aspects and helped PCC.eu to improve the standardisation of work practices and enhance the quality management system.



PDCA CYCLE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The quality management system effectively controls production to ensure product achieves customer specified conformity. PCC.eu are now proactively planning and looking to predict potential quality issues prior to commencing production via regular contract review meetings and supplier consultation. A strong focus on this aspect of the PDCA model (left) has brought a new approach to the organisation and resulted in less rework and rejection further down the production cycle.

Recently PCC.eu passed their ISO 9001 certification audit with SGS with no major or minor corrective actions. Recommendations from SGS were acknowledged and implemented to benefit PCC.eu's continual improvement program. PCC.eu has also recently facilitated audits from key customers which were found to be mutually beneficial and have increased interest in the organisation for future business.

Looking forward, the Quality Management Team look to continue to improve PCC.eu quality management system; bringing the procedures, policies and records in line with the scope of the business. In the near future PCC.eu will be subject to further customer auditing with an ambition to gain IRIS approval.



## Rugby!

Being a Welsh company the passionate sport is Rugby and particularly the Six Nations Championship. We asked all our employees to apply some thought to how each game would end and predict either a home win, away win or a draw with a tie break of how many points would be scored in the whole tournament. It was a close result and depended on the final game to ensure that Graham Cooke won the prize of £50 – Graham worked for the old Company since 2002 and transferred to PCC.eu working as part of the Finishing team. (For the record Mark Isaac predicted the amount of points as 594. This was spot on – but no prize!)

## Facilities

The Composite facilities are in production from 6am to 10pm five days a week giving very good tooling utilisation. The layout has been tweaked to achieve good product flow with emphasis on process visibility—the moulding shop covers 10,000 sq. feet.



5-AXIS CNC MACHINING CENTRE TRIMMING WINDOW MOULDINGS ACCURATELY AND CONSISTENTLY

All the manufacturing equipment is protected by a preventative maintenance program ensuring that all equipment and facilities are in the best possible condition for consistent production and quality. From the 5-axis CNC machining centre, that ensures all important dimensions are achieved consistently after trimming, to our adhesive mixing/dispensing machine ensuring that all of our bonding is sound.

PCC.eu Ltd has upgraded and expanded its assembly facilities to include simple electrical assembly and testing of finished product including lights, Standbacks and PEACUs - to name but a few of our rail sector components, for which we maintain total traceability throughout.



CLEAN ROOM ASSEMBLY AREA SHOWING ASSEMBLY OF STANDBACKS

To maintain our competitiveness, whilst protecting the all important bottom line, we have analysed our internal rework in all areas and concluded that the rework after paint was a worthy target for reduction. We engaged technical advice from the paint manufacturers and have upgraded our facility to their recommendations, which includes a new floor and a positive pressure system with temperature monitored air filtration.

PCC.eu Ltd - Usk Way – Newport – NP20 2JY  
Tel. 01633 214565 – Fax. 01633 216204  
info@pcc.eu.com - www.pcc.eu.com

## Investment in I.T.

A substantial effort has been made by the company to modernise and automate the methods of order and document control throughout the business. The systems implemented make use of Sage Manufacturing and Sage Accounts and enable autonomous traceability to be maintained from a customer's order right through production. They also allow us to develop management tools to better control and improve the business.

We make use of Sage Manufacturing for stock control and traceability, real works order costing, and production sequence monitoring using bar-coded works order documents and scanners at strategic points along the production line. We are making preparations to implement the use of the graphical planner within the software; this, together with use of Microsoft Project, will give us additional methods to identify risks to production and allow action to be taken early on.



We have vastly improved methods and controls on a range of business activities, including Sales Orders, Purchase Orders, Delivery Notes, Goods Received, Stock Control and Production Control. We are utilising the database of information collected to monitor performance and to help improve our relationship with our customers and suppliers. Remote access facilities allow us to keep up to date while off site too. We have plans to make further progress by using other features within the software, such as better drawing control, the Graphical Planner mentioned earlier, barcodes for our deliveries to help customers with traceability within their stock control systems, and developing our data analysis techniques to help improve services to our customers.

Key benefits of the investments made into our IT systems include vast improvements on controls and traceability, data capture allowing us to monitor our performance and therefore better serve our customers. Importantly, the systems have reduced administrative workload and freed up the team to focus on wider roles.