

Joining the jet-set

To further establish itself in the aerospace sector, precision engineering specialist Di-Spark has recently acquired AS9100 accreditation following an intensive programme that commenced in January 2008.

Di-Spark's managing director, David Light commented: "We've become very active in the aerospace sector and AS9100 accreditation will only help strengthen our credentials. It also means that we are well-placed to capitalise on the recently announced SC21 aerospace initiative which, in part will see AS9100 accreditation become a contractual requirement for suppliers, and a discriminator in aerospace supplier selection."

The accreditation will also ensure that Di-Spark is entered onto OASIS (online aerospace supplier information system) - a database that advertises manufacturing capabilities and capacity to prospective customers.

As part of a range of services offered, Di-Spark has expertise in using and applying EDM technology (wire and sink) to the manufacture of high precision, complex parts. Additionally, the company has, in recent years, also made a significant investment in multi-axis machine tools as a route to further boosting productivity and maintaining competitiveness.

"Some of our most recent investments have been in high performance 5-axis machine tools equipped with high capacity automatic tool changers and workpiece pallet changers," Mr Light continues. "The increased productivity and performance we get from these machines means that we



are not only ideally placed to capitalise on opportunities in the aerospace sector - but also other high technology growth sectors such as medical, oil and gas and defence."

Di-Spark's proactive business approach has also seen the company invest in other productivity enhancing technology such as advanced measurement and inspection equipment and CAD/CAM software. The company is also looking to further exploit the advantages to be gained from one hit machining by investing in multi-axis mill/turn technology.

"At Di-Spark we do everything we can to be proactive and to be on the front foot," Mr Light summarises. "We study market trends and, when the time is right, we act decisively. Our decision to become AS9100 accredited reflects this mindset."

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