



Success Story

Overall production time has been cut by around 50%

As a family owned business established since 1973, Long & Marshall Ltd has seen its fair share of downturns and recessions over the last 35 years. However, the Havant based subcontract manufacturer to the aerospace, defence, medical...

...and F1 industries believes its investment in technology and highly skilled staff will not only maintain but generate business through the current economic climate.

As Long & Marshall Managing Director, Mr Vince Long comments: "Little over four years ago we moved from a 9,000 to a 24,000sq/ft facility and we have invested considerably in 5-axis machining technology to maintain our competitive edge in industry sectors that demand ever increasingly difficult and complex parts. We have acquired 13 CNC machine tools with more recent acquisitions including a DMG EVO LINEAR 5-axis machining centre and a CMZ 35Y turning centre with a Mikron HPM800U 5-axis machining centre set for delivery in June."

OPEN MIND's hyperMILL® CAD/CAM software had improved production and processing times for the leading F1 team. Following the glowing endorsement and witnessing the exceptional speed of programming at a demonstration at Long & Marshall, Mr Long acquired two seats of OPEN MIND's hyperMILL® in October 2007.

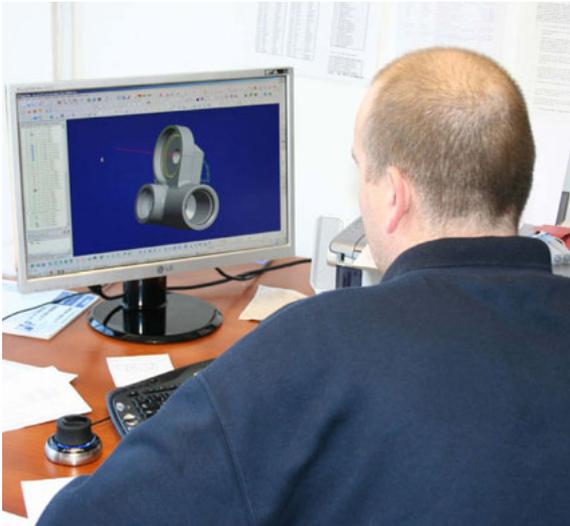


About Long & Marshall

Founded in 1973 by Mike Long, Long and Marshall Ltd has achieved an enviable reputation for consistently high standards of workmanship and superb service in the field of Precision Engineering and Assembly. Continual investment in people and facilities with the latest machining technology, CAD/CAM, Production Planning software and Lean Manufacturing techniques ensures that we remain one of the premier CNC machining companies in the south of England with multi-axis machining capabilities including 5-axis milling.

> www.longmar.com

Mr. Long programming Aerospace Part



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Vince Long, Managing Director



A number of different complex drill heads

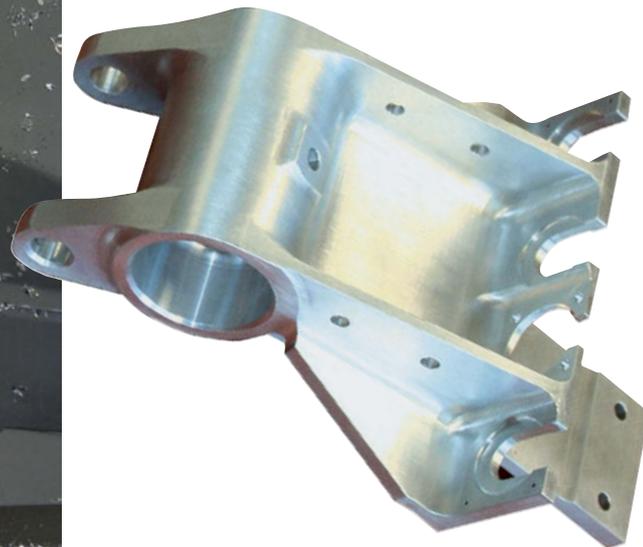
Part of the reason that forced the change from its current vendor was a version upgrade that became very different visually and hence time consuming. However, since the change to OPEN MIND the company has been ecstatic with its acquisition. As *hyperMILL*® Long continues: “We witnessed immediate benefits with *hyperMILL*®. We produce a number of different complex drill heads for the oil and gas industry and each type has a programming time of between 10 to 20 hours with manual geometry creation. However, the *hyperMILL*® system has feature recognition and it allows us to program 50 holes at any geometry in minutes as opposed to hours. We have taken the programming time for drill heads from 10-20 hours to less than 6-8 hours with the feature recognition tool on the *hyperMILL*® system.”

From drawing to complete part the drill heads previously took over 30 hours, with *hyperMILL*® the overall production time has been cut by around 50%. The machining strategy of *hyperMILL*® has further enhanced productivity by generating an onmach-

ne cycle improvement of an additional 15%. With such an immediate impact, Mr Long was assured that he had chosen the correct CAD/CAM package for his business. The feature recognition tool has been implemented on additional parts such as aerospace brackets where compound angles, holes, and faces can also be easily machined.

Surface finish, quality and cycle time improved

Another major benefit of the OPEN MIND system to Long & Marshall is the ability to conduct programming offline. The *hyperMILL*® system enables the company to verify its tool paths and watch the part being cut onscreen and in such detail it highlights any issues prior to the program being loaded to the machine. With less time spent programming on the shop floor, the machine tools spend more time conducting actual machining than on-stop being programmed. Instead of having a man and machine on-stop, parts can be programmed in the office whilst the machining centre is running. This also helps to ensure that components are right first time as opposed to having the inspection department verify a manually programmed part.



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Further justifying Mr Long's decision to purchase *hyperMILL*®; at one point the company had such a programming backlog, it sub contracted out the programming of some aerospace brackets to a specialist programming house. The exercise cost the company in excess of £ 7,500 and the parts were later machined internally to the specified demands of the customer. Following the acquisition of the OPEN MIND package, Mr Long started to reprogram the parts with *hyperMILL*®. Not only was one of the brackets programmed faster than at the external programming house but the machining strategies of *hyperMILL*® improved the surface finish, quality and cycle time of the brackets considerably, much to the delight of Long & Marshall.

Reflecting upon the OPEN MIND acquisition, Mr Long states: "Our accuracy, productivity and surface finishes have all improved since purchasing the OPEN MIND system. What's more we have remarkable service and support that gives us confidence to tackle pretty much anything the customer throws at us. And in such testing times, our machine shop is ready for anything that comes through the door." ■



Long&Marshall Machine Shop

About OPEN MIND Technologies AG

OPEN MIND is one of the world's most sought-after developers of powerful CAM solutions for machine and controller-independent programming.

OPEN MIND designs optimized CAM solutions that include a high number of innovative features not available elsewhere to deliver significantly higher performance in both programming and machining. Strategies such as 2D, 3D as well as 5axis milling/mill turning, and machining operations like HSC and HPC are efficiently built into the *hyperMILL*® CAM system. *hyperMILL*® provides the maximum possible benefits to customers thanks to its full compatibility with all current CAD solutions and extensive programming automation.

OPEN MIND strives to be the best and most innovative CAM/CAD manufacturer in the world, helping it become one of the top five in the CAM/CAD industry according to the NC Market Analysis Report 2015 compiled by CIMdata. The CAM/CAD solutions of OPEN MIND fulfil the highest demands in the automotive, tool and mould manufacturing, production machining, medical, job shops, energy and aerospace industries. OPEN MIND is represented in all key markets in Asia, Europe and America, and is a Mensch und Maschine company.



We push machining to the limit

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