

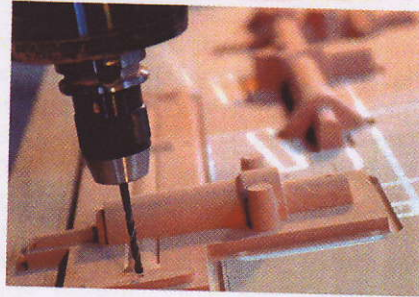
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## The Midas Touch

Midas Pattern Company Limited specialises in the production of low volume, high quality Reaction Injection Moulded parts and Polyurethane castings. The company's composite tooling system, MRIM™, which can produce runs from 1 to 5000-off, is ideally suited to the manufacture of large parts or components with multiple assemblies and complex features.



"We aim to dramatically shorten the time and cost for a designer to move from a CAD model to a fully functioning example of a new product - not just a prototype, but a finished part, made from production material that not only validates design but is truly saleable in



the marketplace," commented Managing Director, Alan Rance. "We're not a typical plastics company so we're not obsessed with high-volumes," added Rachel Collier, Midas' Technical Sales Manager.

The process starts by building tooling models within CAD from which CAM is used to generate cutter paths. The code for these paths can then be downloaded to one of the company's five Haas CNC VMCs - including a 12,000rpm VF-4SS, a VF-6 with a 4th axis Haas rotary table or a large 2 x 1 metre VF9 - typically cutting the master pattern equipment from polyurethane tooling board.

Rachel continued: "Once we have the master pattern equipment we then use it to produce a composite metallised resin injection mould tool - MRIM™. That's about as much as I can tell you. The detail of the process is closely guarded secret. The skill, the Midas touch you could say, is being able to make a good quality tool from the master pattern. What all Midas products have in common is that they all start with CNC machining, which means that every time Midas delivers a tool or a finished part, odds are it started life on a Haas."