## CONTOUR ENGINEERING **TAKES PRECISION TO GREATER HEIGHTS**

THE PROMISE: 'On time Zero defects'. In the field of hi-tech engineering, there are many out there that are easily able to say the words, 'On time with zero defects'; fewer follow through. Those that dare to utter such phrases deliver - such as is the case of Christchurch-based Contour Engineering or are quickly found out.

challenge, according to company owner Roland Auret is not just adhering to the aforementioned, but doing it while simultaneously providing professional customer service. he absolute underlying factor of high precision CNC machining compasses hi-tech manucturing, streamlined man-

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ufacturing processes, good design for manufacture, and hiring quality people. "I started Contour with an ambitious vision," says Mr Auret, "I wanted to support New Zealand companies that were manufacturing high value products via a precision engineering service. And I wanted to deliver that precision engineering service not just once but every single time."

To Mr Auret and the rest of the Contour team, delivering the 'On time Zero defects' promise is the result, the rest is an absolutely necessary process requiring the whole team to be 'A-players' and to live and breathe the company's core values every day.

Contour specialises in a variety of fields that requires nothing short of exact

Helping take your products to the world

www.contour-engineering.com

precision: medical and surgical, aerospace, military and defence, aviation and avionics, carbon fibre mould tooling, digital navigation, automation work cell building and automated equipment. Often, much of what they do cannot be talked about let alone find grace among the pages of Engineering News, such is the level of secrecy and the need for the companies it represents to protect intellectual properties and innovative technologies.

- Ultra Lightweight Product Machining
   Plastics Machining
- om Electrical Hou sings Machining
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## **Hi-tech solutions** a shot in the arm

Shotover cameras (www. shotover.com) have grown to become one of the best gimbal camera systems on the world stage Over the last six years Contour Engineering has worked with the company to offer highly innovative and value for money solutions for the complex hi-tech parts. Shotover's need to constantly make things lighter, smaller, thinner-walled and more complex has fitted into Contour's 'sweet spot' of capabilities and it is thriving on the challenge. The nature of the unconventional shaped parts has presented its fair share of challenges, which makes Contour Engineering push the boundaries of manufacturing processes and find new ways of doing things

Its ability to deliver these difficult solutions on time with Zero defects has mean that Contour Engineering has made it onto Shotover's preferred supplier list in what is a carefully controlled supply chain.

"Shotover is a great example of a New Zealand high-tech innovator that needs partner suppliers that are in the same head space so they can deliver world class products," says Mr Auret.

services for New Zealand manufacturers is a major key in growing the country's manufacture export of hi-tech products beyond the current \$1.43 billion.

IT STARTS WITH THE MACHINERY TO BUILD THE COMPONENTS "Our proven ability to deliver excellence in

precision engineering by manufacturing quality

- ation Facias
- Carbon Fibre Mould Tooling
- Press Tooli



CONTOUR ENGINEERING

On time Zero defects





products enables our customers throughout New Zealand to push the boundaries of innovation and take their products to the world," says Mr Auret.

"Our workshop features the very latest in CNC machining centres and to support them we have a suite of other hi-tech machines that allow us to output the highest quality machined components," explains Mr Auret.

To achieve that desired end result and adhere to the company ethos, Contour has expanded on its capability with the installation of a new Doosan DNM350/5AX.

The high-speed, high-precision 5-axis machining centre enables ultra-high-precision simultaneous 5-axis control for aviation and medical parts and 4+1-axis control for the economically feasible multi-facet/complex shape machining.

"The Doosan 5-axis reduces the number of setups required for multi-facet parts enabling us to make more complex parts at a cheaper cost than if we were using the conventional 3 and 4-axis machines." This delivers better value for money for the company's clients. Mr Auret describes the new machine as a

Wr Auret describes the new machine as a "perfect fit" and has contributed significantly to Contour being able to offer services including: custom electrical housings machining, complex multi axis machining, thin walled, carbon fibre mould tooling, press tooling, micro components, manifolds, prototyping, plastics machining, production, communication facia and ultra-lightweight product machining. Through it, the company makes the parts, "others wouldn't attempt," says Mr Auret but he also believes that the company's offering is accented by its team culture, attitude, communication, values and thinking outside the box when it comes to innovative machining solutions.

## CUSTOMERS DO NOT WIN IF 'B PLAYERS' ARE EMPLOYED

'Team work' is a heavily overused phrase in any work environment, and manufacturing is no different. But it is crucial, especially in a precision engineering environment where the best results come from people and machines working in concert. Leading companies win by hiring, coaching,

and keeping the best people and at Contour
Engineering they strive to do the same.
"To me talent in a precision engineering
context is the ability of a workforce to deliver
an outcome for a client. It comes from
culture, attitude, communication and living a
"Our team look at common approaches in a
fresh way and this translates to benefits on the
workshop floor. Here at Contour our talented
employees and machine operators find smarter
ways to implement processes and strategies.
"Do that, and you build long term relationships."



set of core values."

Core values that Contour Engineering lives by are: step up/own it, go the extra mile, good enough is not enough, and to work smart. "With all the core values as a base we can then deliver on the' triple e'... economy (good value), efficiency (minimal waste) and effectiveness (high quality).

"Great engineering cultures have a good set of core values," says Mr Auret and he and his team put this into effect in all aspects of business from the spotless workshop floor to the clothes they wear.



