



SC21 Bronze Award presentation at FIA 2010 marks a major milestone for Hone-All Precision



Peter Hogg, BAE Systems' Procurement Strategy Director (right), presents the SC21 Bronze Award to Hone-All Precision Ltd's Andrea Rodney and Wayne Wilson.

Nothing could have bettered the Farnborough International Airshow 2010 as a venue for the presentation by Peter Hogg, Director of Procurement Strategy, BAE Systems, of the SC21 Bronze Award to Hone-All Precision Ltd. Although there are currently 626 UK-based aerospace industry suppliers signed up to the SC21 supply chain initiative, Bronze level status has only been achieved by some thirty UK companies to date, with Hone-All Precision being number 25 on the list and having the distinction of achieving the Bronze Award milestone in the shortest timescale.

SC21, which is backed by AIDIS - the trade body formed by the merger of, among others, the Defence Manufacturers Association (DMA) and the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC) - is a crucial element in the UK aerospace industry's drive to remove duplication and improve efficiency within the supply chain. And the UK's premier aerospace event provided an appropriate high tech backdrop to the presentation of the SC21 Bronze Award to Wayne Wilson, Quality Manager, and Andrea Rodney, Director, the Leighton Buzzard subcontractor's joint SC21 Champions.

In his role as Chairman of the SC21 task force Peter Hogg heads a team comprising the top 16 major suppliers to the UK aerospace industry. He says that while SC21 is a relatively recent introduction it is "resulting already in performance improvements, better delivery, better quality, and reduced overheads and cost...because suppliers only have to face a particular problem once within a multiple customer base. This is good news for our major customer - the Government and MoD - and for the UK economy as a whole."

Having successfully achieved AS 9100 accreditation in September 2009 and taking just four months to satisfy the recently-upgraded SC21 Bronze level performance requirements of 90-95 per cent on-time deliveries and 98-99.5 per cent quality performance, Hone-All Precision now has the SC21 Silver Award firmly in its sights. The Silver level criteria of 99.5-99.9 per cent quality performance has only been achieved by five participating companies to date and Colin Rodney, Managing Director, says he is confident that Hone-All Precision "will succeed in its drive to become a member of this elite group".

Acknowledging that SC21 presents a tremendous challenge, especially to SMEs taking an independent route to qualification, Andrea Rodney will be taking part in the Open Forum Programme that accompanies the Aero Engineering 2010 exhibition scheduled for 29-30 September at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. "I intend to take this opportunity to offer encouragement and reassurance to other SMEs that the objectives set by SC21 are achievable, given a clear agenda for change and a determination to devote the time and resource necessary for a successful outcome," says Bedfordshire's Businesswoman of the Year 2009. "The incentive for every participant taking part in this supply chain improvement programme is that successful implementation of SC21 provides incontrovertible evidence of an individual supplier's determination to be truly world class."

For its part aerospace is becoming an increasingly important aspect of Hone-All Precision's day to day business, although the 26-employee subcontractor has many loyal customers from other equally demanding industry sectors such as oil and gas, automotive and motor sport. "We offer a one-stop-shop precision machining commitment to our customers that takes in everything from sourcing raw materials through to producing quality machined components," says Colin Rodney. "As an integral part of this long-term commitment we continue to maintain our specialist skills in honing, gun drilling and deep hole boring, not least because these are challenging machining processes that, in our experience, are best left to the experts"



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