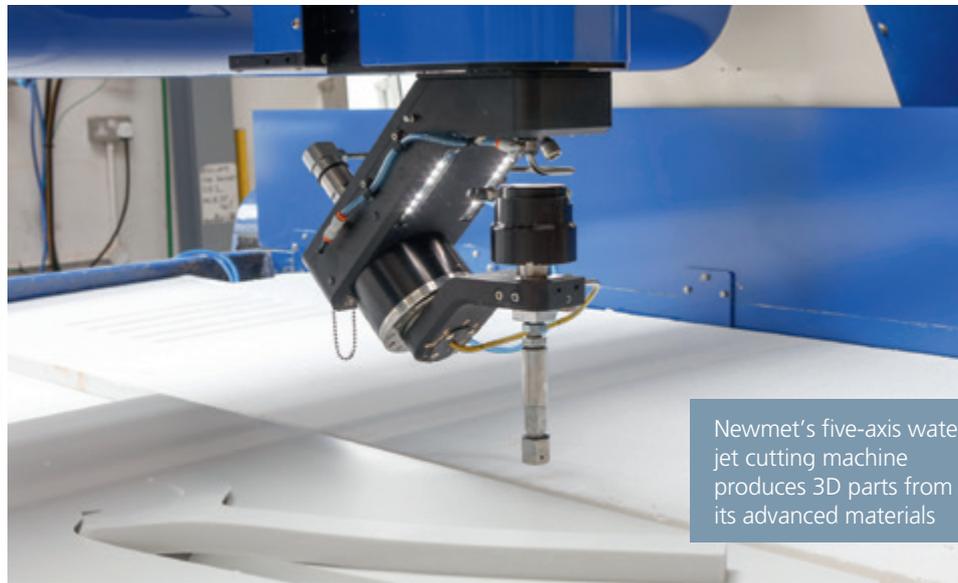


# NewMet



Seals and gaskets are used in environments which include aircraft interiors



Newmet's five-axis water jet cutting machine produces 3D parts from its advanced materials

## FACTS ABOUT NEWMET

- » Independent, privately-owned company
- » Six manufacturing and development sites located across the UK and in Germany
- » Produces silicone extrusions, gaskets, moulded, sewn, thermoformed and fabricated parts and other items manufactured from its high-performance materials
- » Active in research, testing and product development in response to customer needs
- » Approved supplier to Airbus and many other leading companies
- » Exports represent 60% of turnover
- » Quality certification includes ISO 9001 and AS 9100C

Over the past four years, turnover at NewMet Ltd has increased by 60% underlining the success of the company's transformation into a specialist manufacturer for aerospace, defence and other technically demanding industries. Celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2017, NewMet continues to invest to improve its capabilities and capacity while innovating in research, testing and product development in response to the needs of customers. Its head office is in Essex and manufacturing sites are located in England, Wales and Germany.

'As a leading specialist in materials technology, we help some of the world's biggest manufacturers resolve their product challenges,' explains managing director, John Lindsay. 'Our primary interest lies in solving the problem rather than looking at the potential turnover that might result, and I think that differentiates the NewMet Group from many other companies in our sector. It also explains, in part, the good relationships we have with our customers, some of which go back more than 30 years.'

He cites an example of an industrial customer who needed to reduce losses resulting from damage to parts on the production line. The solution drew together NewMet's expertise in materials technology, adhesives and its manufacturing capabilities.

'We developed a range of products which protect the parts during the production process and enable work to be carried out on specific areas. These include thermoformed foam masks, sewn covers and adhesive foam masks which are fixed into position with adhesive and removed on completion, leaving no residue. It's been a very effective solution which saves our customer several hundred thousand pounds a year,' he adds.

## Advanced materials

NewMet is an approved supplier to Airbus and many other leading companies. It produces, develops and supplies specialist technical materials, based upon silicone foams and solid silicones, composites, polyethylene materials, adhesives and shielding materials. Typical applications include seals and gaskets used, for example, in civil aircraft interiors, and thermal and acoustic insulation in vehicle interiors.

Founded in 1947, the company started business as a stockholder and distributor of metals and chemicals. It has expanded steadily over the years, developing a reputation for technical expertise and the quality and performance of its products. It was during the 1980s that NewMet first moved into advanced materials and began processing silicone foam to develop new markets. Its products offered superior performance over traditional materials in areas such as fire retardance, toxicity and mechanical properties.

Since then, the company has diversified its range and progressively

moved into specialist manufacturing, now the main activity of the business. It recently acquired a five-axis water jet cutting machine to produce three-dimensional parts.

‘Many of our products are used as seals and gaskets, or for thermal and acoustic insulation, so our manufacturing capabilities and use of computer aided design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM ) are really important in enabling us to meet customer demands for precision shapes,’ said John Lindsay. ‘Just as important is our expertise in adhesives, masking and bonding applications.’

The company’s growth has been achieved both organically and through acquisition. NewMet acquires businesses that complement and expand its product base and provide knowhow. In 2010, the group acquired Packstat Ltd which continues to operate from South Wales and is one of the UK’s leading technical tape suppliers to industry. In 2012 NewMet’s silicone fabrication capabilities were enhanced following the acquisition of an extrusion business previously based in Germany.

## » MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES

- » plasma treatment
- » five-axis water-jet cutting
- » wire-cutting
- » moulding
- » extruding
- » laminating
- » slitting
- » sewing
- » knife cutting
- » hot pressing
- » die cutting
- » gallium germanium shot production
- » complex assembly
- » carbon-carbon friction disc production
- » self-adhesive parts
- » in-house product testing

Specialist manufacturing at NewMet includes colour mixing for moulded and extruded silicone products





Computer aided design meets customer demand for precision shapes

» MATERIAL SPOTLIGHT

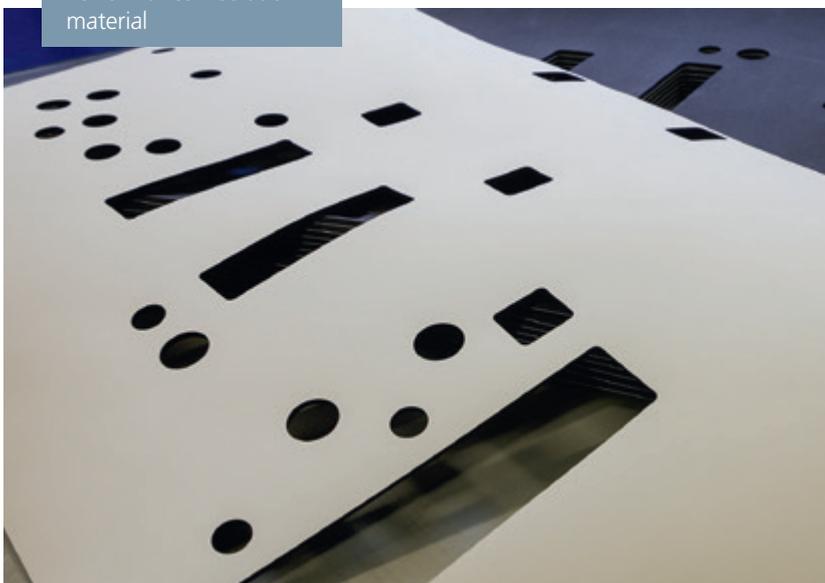
- » NMSS50FR: Fire retardant silicone extrusion or moulding grade. Approved by Airbus and other companies.
- » HT606A: Fire retardant self-adhesive silicone foam for gap filling, sealing and other applications. Approved by Airbus and other companies
- » NMHPI High Performance Insulation: Lightweight para-aramid/polyethylene laminate which is highly durable with low flammability.

### Customised research

New materials play a vital role in product development and have been at the heart of many revolutions in product design, safety and effectiveness. To maintain its leading position in supplying these materials, NewMet has been active in research.

Historically, research centred on involvement in the European Community's Basic Research in Industrial Technologies for Europe programme (BRITE). The programme aimed to stimulate the development of advanced technologies in the European

NewMet's NMHPI High Performance Insulation material



Community and to promote a tradition of trans-border cooperation between companies. NewMet worked on product development in the area of carbon-carbon components with companies and research institutions across Europe.

Today NewMet's research and development activities are carried out in response to customer requests. The launch of extruded silicone grades and creation of a high-performance durable insulation material with low flammability are both developments that resulted from customer demand.

The company continues the tradition of working in close cooperation with customers in Europe and internationally. Exports are responsible for 60% of the group's turnover and it has recently opened a manufacturing base in Germany. 'The history of our company is one of constant progress and this remains just as important looking ahead,' John Lindsay comments. 'We are currently investing around one million pounds in equipment which will increase and enhance our manufacturing capabilities. These investments are set to be operational by the end of 2017.'