



Welcome to the next issue of Unifabs' newsletter. I hope that you will find it informative, learn a bit more about the business, and join us in looking forward to what the next few months holds.

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

From two employees and one machine 15 years ago, to 170 employees and a £13.5M turnover business today. It's easy to overlook how far we've come as we deal with the daily running of the business, but it was great to stop and celebrate all the hard work and dedication of our employees, past and present, and the support from our customers and suppliers that got us to where we are today. So, thank you again for being part of the journey so far. I look forward to seeing how the business grows before we hit the next milestone in 2027!

Speaking of growth, we've made some strategic investments in both technology and plant over the past six months and we are excited to see these come into fruition. It is this continual investment back into the business that keeps us at the forefront and will remain key in our business' strategy.

With the successful launch of the Academy in 2022, some additional benefits are now being realised. Beyond that of creating an exceptionally trained and skilled workforce that will underpin the longevity of the business, it has also enabled a huge 190% increase in the number of R&D contracts that we have been able to support our customers with. A significant value-added service and just one of the few ways we are committed to providing the best service possible to our partners and customers. And with a further intake of apprentices in September we aim to continue this trend.

Let me now share with you a few of our other developments and successes from the past 12 months as we delve behind the scenes at Unifabs!



TOM JAMES, MANAGING DIRECTOR

£13.5M

Turnover
(£12.5M in 2021)



150

Employees
(120 in 2021)



734,318

Parts Delivered
(1,179,346 in 2021)



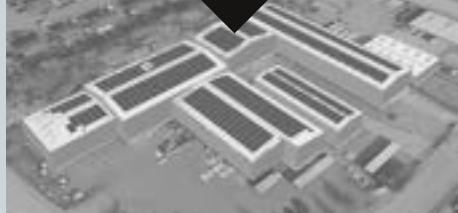
£1.5M

Recent Investments in
Plant and Technology



54,900

sq. ft. manufacturing
space



200

R&D Projects
(68 in 2021)

BOOSTING EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY

2021 saw Unifabs strengthen its 'design to delivery' offer with £1.75 million invested in new technology across laser cutting and bending to support ambitious growth targets. 2022-2023 has seen a further £1 million investment in technology to support and maintain this growth, boost efficiency and drive productivity.

The investments in technology include adding a second Salvagnini panel bender and a further robot welding cell, expanding on our current twin-cell set up. We have also ordered two Haeger fastener insertion systems to be installed in July!

In this section, meet the new machines and learn some of their strategic benefits.



SALVAGNINI P2: TAKE TWO!

May 2021 saw the installation of a Salvagnini P2 automated panel bender, an incredible addition to our sheet metal forming centre and June 2023 saw the arrival of a second one!

This high-speed automated panel bender has extended our capabilities, and with a second one now doubling capacity, there will be even more opportunity to take advantage of this innovative piece of automation. From a design perspective, the Salvagnini has unlocked many potential design and commercial improvements for our customers, and the second machine will also act to alleviate any potential downtime that may impact regular contract work, such as servicing.

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MEET OUR NEW WELDER

We've extended our robotic welding capacity with the addition of a new arc welding cell. The combination of advanced technologies from Fanuc, Binzel and Kempfi ensures that the new system will significantly enhance our welding capabilities, allowing for robotic welding of more complex projects with greater ease. The system also delivers superior results in terms of accuracy, precision and repeatability and is testament to our commitment to providing the highest quality fabrication services to our customers.

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MEET THE HAEGER FASTENER INSERTION SYSTEM:

We are excited to share the addition of not just one, but two 824 WindowTouch Fastener Insertion systems to support our sheet metal manufacturing services. This investment, expected to be installed this month, will enhance our capabilities and increase productivity whilst maintaining quality.

Packed with features that promise to optimise labour we are excited to get these installed and see the benefits. Keep an eye on our social media pages for more updates!



CAPITALISING ON VERTICAL SPACE

With the changes made to the facilities layout last year working well, we've continued to make changes this year to increase production capacity.

The changes last year made way for new equipment and streamlined logistics processes. This April saw a new mezzanine floor added to the finishing building in order to increase production capacity. This has added significant factory floor area to meet the growing demand for sheet metal assembly services.

The installation of the new mezzanine area is just one example of how the company is investing in its future to ensure that it remains a leading manufacturer in the industry.

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UNIFABS ACADEMY: UPDATE

Our Academy is crucial to our growth and success. We began recruiting for the 2023 intake in January, visiting local schools and colleges. In March, we had a successful open day where prospective apprentices explored our facilities. We're thrilled to announce that we extended offers to seven candidates who will start a three-year Metal Fabricator Apprenticeship at level 3 soon. The course, delivered in partnership with Train'd Up in Birmingham, includes remote learning, practical work, and work-based assessment for a comprehensive learning experience. We're also excited to share that employee Kai will be joining them.

The 2022 intake is progressing well. Mason and Hayden completed the first year of their three-year Level 3 courses. Jamie achieved Level 2 Product Technician certification, and Eddy obtained Level 2 Metal Fabricator certification. Both Jamie and Eddy are now advancing to level 3. Eddy's fabrication experience has been invaluable in supporting Kris Gruba, increasing R&D project capacity by 190% compared to the previous 12 months. Jamie has made significant contributions to various design projects. Currently, the apprentices are working together on a Soapbox car for an upcoming race in August. We wish them the best of luck!

WE'RE CONNECTED!

We've made the big switch to solar this year having invested in a huge 995 PV modules installed over five of Unifabs' factories. The £355k investment in solar energy marks our commitment to sustainability and green energy. It will help reduce carbon footprint and make the business more cost-effective.

Commercial solar specialists Centreco (UK) Ltd installed the system at the site in Nuneaton. By focussing on renewable energy sources, we hope to lead the way in creating a better future for everyone.

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SERVICE AWARDS AND NEW ARRIVALS

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Without the dedication of our talented employees, Unifabs wouldn't have grown into the successful sheet metal fabrication company it is today. Here we recognise the loyalty and commitment of our long serving employees and congratulate them on achieving service milestones:

15 Year Service:

Mateusz - Sheet Metal Centre Supervisor
Jarek - Production Manager
Tom - Managing Director
Artur - CNC Setter

10 Year Service:

Chris - Contracts/Estimation Manager
Andrzej - CNC Programming Supervisor
Lukasz - Robot Welding Operator
Dariusz - Linisher

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ARRIVALS

A section to welcome and introduce some of the new key staff members over the past 12 months.

Amy - Administration Assistant
Simon - Accounts Manager
Heather - Accounts Assistant
Will - CAD Engineer
Peter - CAD Engineer
Mason - Engineering Technician Apprentice
Hayden - Engineering Technician Apprentice

We'd also like to welcome a number of new starters in production, supporting day and night shifts in welding, assembly, powder coating and bending.



WELCOME TO UNIFABS



Some of the Academy 2022 intake
with supervisors Matt and Kris

MEET THE TEAM

Mason - Engineering Technician Apprentice

What are you most looking forward to learning in your apprenticeship? I am looking forward to learning TIG welding and also CNC cutting.

What have you learnt so far? I have learnt how to program and operate a press brake. I have also learnt how to MIG weld and spent some time in assembly, putting together products. At the moment I am learning some processes on the powder coating line, like hanging and blowing out.

How would you describe the kind of people that work at Unifabs? Patient, well mannered, respectful.

With an apprenticeship you earn while you learn. What did you spend your first wages on and what would you most like to splash out on? I spent my first wages at McDonalds, but I like to splash out on buying equipment for my motorbike.

Andy Tuck - Sales Manager

In terms of your job, what gets you out of bed in the morning? People - Firstly, I have a great set of colleagues who all club together where needed and take pride in doing the best job they can. Secondly, and it certainly makes my life easier, I have a fantastic customer base. Everyone we work with is lovely! Our customers treat us with respect and value the partnership both parties work hard at creating.

What do clients say they like about partnering with Unifabs? Definitely the Sales Manager! In all seriousness, it seems to be different client to client. Some really value our ability to support them with and improve an existing product, some our technical expertise, while others value our honesty, communication and service levels above all else.

Just for fun...

What is the nerdiest thing you do in your spare time? I'm not ashamed to say I'm a huge fan of Star Wars. I try to pass off my figure collection as my kids. In reality, they're locked in a glass cabinet, away from small, sticky fingers!

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IN OTHER NEWS...

ON THE BALL

In March, Sales Account Manager, Ben Shakespeare, saw an advert at local football club Nuneaton Borough FC for a corporate football tournament, the Boro Cup. Having brought the idea to his colleagues, he had such an influx of keen players, he ended up with two teams in the tournament!

A number of practice sessions and matches against other local teams followed and the company provided branded kit in support of the team. Some wins and losses later it was time for the big day. It was a great event and a number of colleagues showed up in support. It didn't go their way on the day, beaten by more established teams, however everyone involved had a great day and look forward to smashing it at next year's tournament. If anyone wants to arrange a friendly, get in touch!

THANK YOU!

We were thrilled over Easter to reach 2000 followers on LinkedIn. If you already follow us, thank you for your support, it means a lot. If you don't, why not join us and help us reach the next milestone!

WHAT'S NEXT?



Unifabs plans to launch a new website in 2023 to deliver an improved user experience and online presence.



Further new signage will be introduced over the coming months to improve wayfinding and visitor experience.



Apprenticeship Academy new 2023 intake coming in September.



Continuous improvements to the factory to enhance customer experience.



Continue to work on sustainable processes and packaging initiatives.

THANK YOU
2000
FOLLOWERS

CONNECT WITH US

Keep up-to-date with news when it happens by following us



www.unifabs.eu