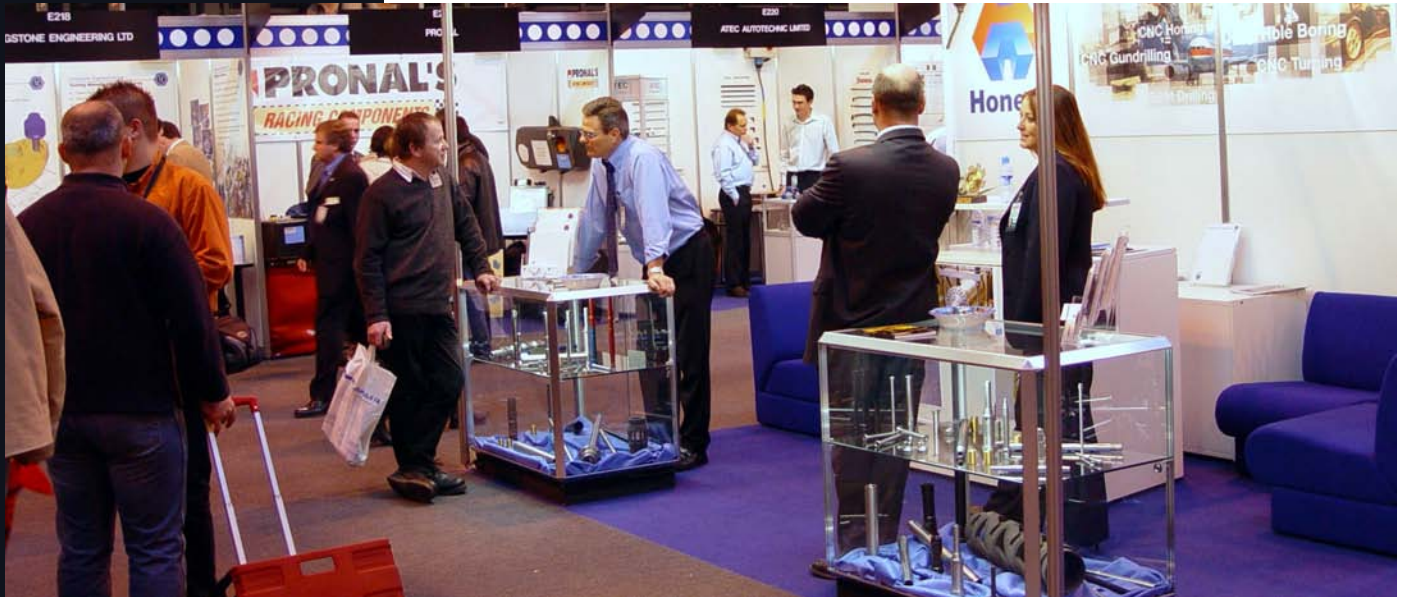




Hone-All Precision makes the most of Autosport Engineering



Autosport Engineering provided a rewarding experience for Dunstable-based Hone-All Precision.

The decision to take part in Autosport Engineering has paid big dividends, according to Andrea Rodney, co-director of Hone-All Precision.

"It's the sheer enthusiasm of the motorsport community that makes this particular show so worthwhile," she says, "and it is an ideal environment in which to catch up with industry news. While we are involved with several major players in motorsport already, we are always looking to expand our customer base. This means seizing every opportunity to promote our capabilities as a single source supplier of fully machined components.

"With its short lead times, small batches, tight tolerances and exotic materials, motorsport is a particularly demanding industry to deal with. However, we enjoy the challenge, and Autosport Engineering has again provided us with some exciting new opportunities to demonstrate our hard-won project management expertise."

Having now relocated its manual honing activities to an adjacent site, the ISO 9001 accredited sub-contractor has been busy preparing its main machining facilities in readiness for the installation of another deep hole drilling and boring machine. The intention is to transfer short billet and small batch work from the existing deep hole borer, thereby reducing set-up times, shortening lead times and improving competitiveness. However, the changes involve more than just a straightforward expansion of Hone-All Precision's machining capability. The emphasis is on improving productivity by combining multi-skilling with a workplace that optimises the flow of work through it.

The Dunstable sub-contractor is committed to a programme of continuous improvement that embraces the entire manufacturing process, from its response to an initial enquiry right the way through to the scheduled delivery of the finished component. This owes much to a business excellence model developed in conjunction with Cranfield University, which has seen Hone-All Precision examine every aspect of the way it operates.



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