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Local cooperation project with global impact CFRP demo part for trade fairs and events

In a joint project, the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland and MAPAL bundle their skills and develop a generic component together, which is putting MAPAL's tool expertise in the area of CFRP machining to the test. The part, which was initially planned for local trade fairs and events, is now being used worldwide.

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The demo component shows a variety of surfaces and bores machined with CFRP tools from MAPAL. ©MAPAL

“Especially for trade fairs and conventions, we needed a fictional part to clearly illustrate the principal tools and processes related to CFRP machining”, says Mark Radcliffe, Business Development Manager at MAPAL UK. “For projects like this, we like to make use of our good cooperation and partnership with universities and institutions.”

The National Manufacturing Institute Scotland (NMIS) is a group of industry-operated research and development centres with a network of partners throughout Scotland. It offers its services to the manufacturing sector. For this purpose, the NMIS provides manufacturers access to

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innovative technologies and an international network of experts and employees from industry and science.

After a first discussion, the NMIS's CFRP experts designed a 3D model of the demo part, which illustrated the requested machining processes and tools to be demonstrated. One of MAPAL UK's partners provided the material. MAPAL provided the tools and optimal machining parameters. After the blueprint was ready, the fibre-reinforced composite part was machined at NMIS's Lightweight Manufacturing Centre.

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The component during machining at the Lightweight Manufacturing Centre of the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland. ©MAPAL

According to Radcliffe, the result is convincing: "The demo part was originally destined for use in the UK. But the market segment management in Aalen will now use it globally at events."

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