

Cinpres ceases gas injection moulding system production

BUSINESS: 'Investment decision' to focus on licensing IP

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Cinpres has ceased manufacturing its gas injection moulding systems. The move was described as an "investment decision" by the company's managing director Jonathan Butler.

According to Butler, the Coventry-based company will continue to trade but only in order to license its intellectual property (IP).

An industry insider, who wished to remain anonymous, told *PRW*: "I have heard on good authority that the investment group that owns Cinpres has decided to shut down the Cinpres operation."

"I believe this means

that any existing warranties will expire.

"I also believe that Maximator from Germany will then open an office in the UK and employ all the Cinpres personnel. They will then supply support and sales for any existing Cinpres customers."

PRW could not verify these claims as Butler failed to respond to the magazine's calls.

Cinpres signed a deal with Germany's Maximator in 2010 that saw the two companies develop a single global product range. Cinpres contributed its gas controllers and liquid cooling systems while Maximator concentrated on compressors, dosing systems, nozzles and injectors.



Butler: Firm to continue trading

At the time of the deal Butler told *PRW*: "We had the strongest global presence in the industry but weren't matching that in Germany."

The firm's gas injection moulding technology was the subject of a lengthy UK patent dispute between Cinpres and rival firm Melea – an action that was resolved in Cinpres' favour in January 2008 after James Hendry, a Melea

employee and supposed inventor of the process, admitted perjury.

It was eventually ruled that Hendry had learnt of the technique while previously working for Cinpres and had misappropriated it for his new employer.

The Right Honourable Sir Igor Judge, president of the Queen's Bench Division, called Hendry and Melea owner Michael Ladney "liars" in his summing up. "Neither deserves the courtesy of a 'Mister'," he added.

In August 2010 Cinpres announced that it had purchased all remaining patents from Gibraltar-based Melea along with its trading name.

Sidel targeted in web fraud attack

BUSINESS

A number of Sidel customers, suppliers and key partners were target of Internet-based fraud attempts, according to the plastics drinks packaging company.

"They received fake emails or phone calls from so-called Sidel employees, requesting or providing business sensitive information such as usernames, passwords, banking details and/or invoice information with the objective of using this information to divert payments from the pre-agreed payment

methods," the company said in a statement.

A number of techniques were used in the attempted fraud including bogus emails and phone calls.

"Please remain vigilant and verify any unusual request with your trusted business partner in Sidel. If you believe you have been a target of an attempted fraud using Sidel information (real or false), please let us know," the company added.

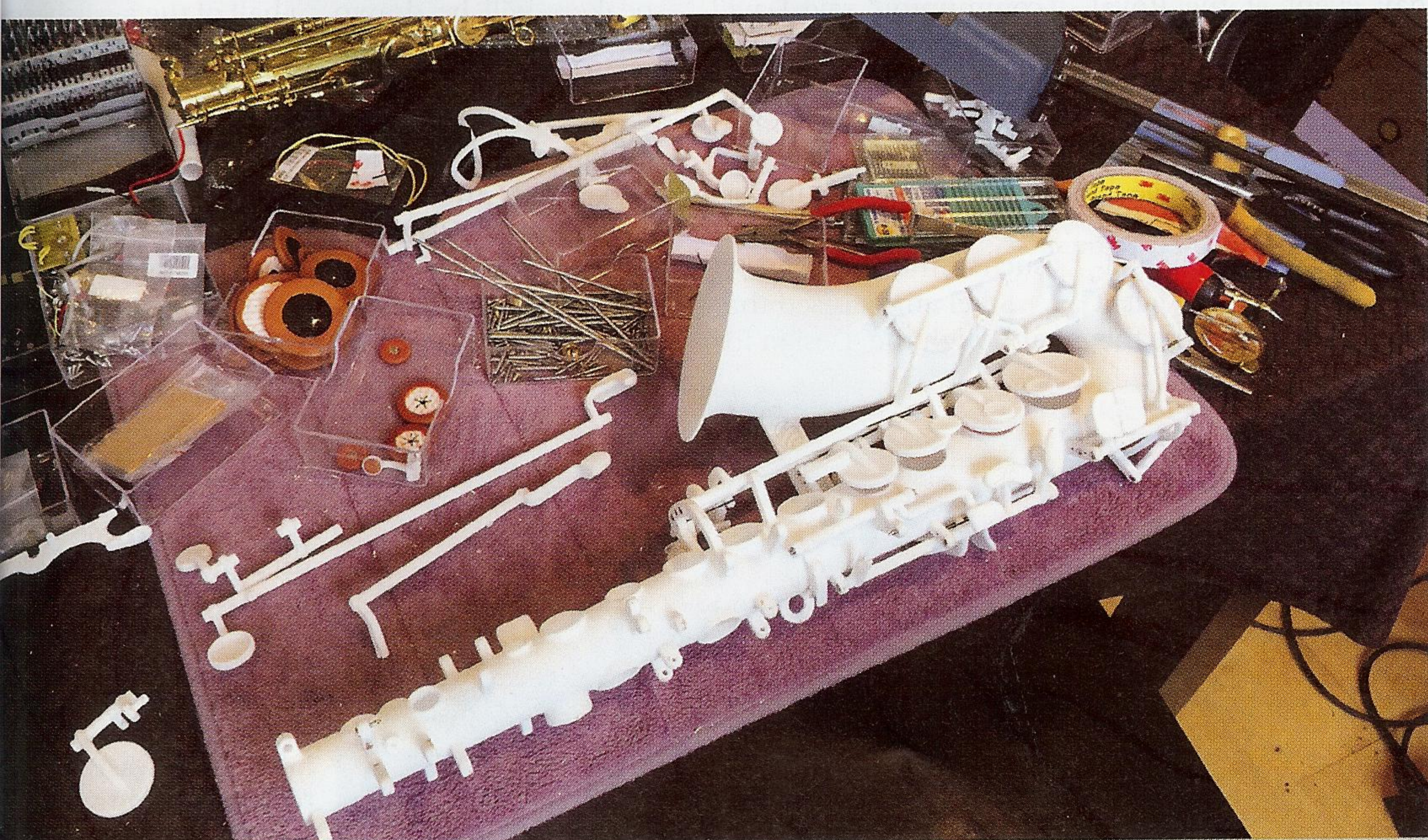
Concerned customers should contact Sidel at governance@sidel.com

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SAX APPEAL Swedish musician and designer, Olaf Diegel, has produced a 3D-printed alto saxophone, which consists of 41 nylon components. "Surprisingly to me, the sax sounds very much like a sax," said Diegel, who used a traditional saxophone as his template. Diegel is still perfecting its mechanical function and fixing air leak problems, which are causing some notes to be out of tune.

● See cartoon back page



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Jaguar Land Rover wins 2014 Altair Enlighten Award

INNOVATION

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has won the 2014 Altair Enlighten Award competition for the development and implementation of its premium lightweight architecture design concept on the latest Range Rover vehicles.

The award, presented in collaboration with the Centre for Automotive Research (Car), is the automotive industry's first award programme created specifically to acknowledge innovations in vehicle lightweighting.

As part of JLR's approach to sustainability, its lightweight vehicle strategy takes a holistic approach to CO₂ reduction, linking strategies of weight reduction in the body and chassis systems to powertrain and related secondary weight savings, while maximising recycled material use and lowering energy consumption during the manufacturing stage.



The Land Rover Discovery Sport features innovative lightweighting

Body and chassis weight savings are focused on the use of lightweight metals (primarily aluminium and magnesium) and plastics (both composites and thermoplastics), as well as an overall target of 40% weight savings over a conventional steel spot-welded body with equivalent or improved attributes.

As an example of the premium lightweight architecture in action, the new lightweight vehicle Range Rover body weighs only 288 kg,

compared to the previous model body weight of 498 kg, a reduction of more than 40%. Significant savings were also achieved for the chassis (70 kg) and powertrain (130 kg).

JLR developed new computer-aided engineering techniques to simulate crash, durability, noise, vibration, and harshness attributes. In parallel, new manufacturing simulation techniques for stamping, casting and joining the lightweight vehicle structures were created.

These new simulation methods have enabled the company to develop lightweight vehicle products in the virtual world to minimise incremental development testing.

David Mason, vice president, Global Automotive for Altair says JLR's "holistic approach to vehicle lightweighting and CO₂ reduction yielded an aggressive and highly impressive methodology that is enabling the creation of new and exciting vehicle architectures".



gy used with an innovative multi-timed mould from Germany-based Weber Esslinger on an electric two-component Allrounder during its Technology Days this year.

The automated production cell was developed as a demonstration application by Arburg, Weber, Bayer MaterialScience and Iken. The multi-timed rotary mould features several injection and cooling stations, as well as a removal station. The stations are moved to by means of an electric rotary unit from Weber in 45° steps.

The polycarbonate material for the 25mm thick lens is injected in several layers. It is subsequently cooled. The high-precision multi-layer lens is then removed at the eighth and final station while the mould is closed.

Arburg says in conventional production, the cycle time for a multi-layer component is around 180 seconds. If the lens is produced in a single operation, a total cycle time of 600 seconds is necessary. During the multi-component production using the multi-timed mould, all the individual processes occur simultaneously in the mould. This enables a cycle time reduction to around 60 seconds. The complete mould sequence, including the rotational movement, is fully integrated in the Selogica control system on the Allrounder.

ADVERTISEMENT PROMOTION



PE100+ Association celebrates its 15th anniversary and 10 successful years of Plastic Pipes conferences at Plastic Pipes XVII in Chicago

The Plastic Pipes Conference Association (PPCA) was formed over 10 years ago to take over the organisation of the Plastic Pipes series of International Conferences. During that time there have been five very successful conferences and the sixth will be Plastic Pipes XVII in Chicago on 22-24th September 2014.

The PE100+ Association, this year also celebrating its 15th anniversary, is a founding member of the PPCA and has a number of active members on the Board and Conference Organising Committee. Robin Bresser, co-founding Director of the PPCA says: "It is great to see the Plastic Pipes Conferences going from strength to strength and I am sure that the Chicago event will be equally successful." Pierre Belloir, the current President of the PE100+ Association adds: "The PE100+ Association itself was founded 15 years ago to support the market development of PE100 pipes and fittings and it is satisfying to witness the tremendous progress that has been achieved and the upcoming conference in Chicago will feature many papers highlighting the success of PE pipes around the world."

Raw material developments are still extremely important to support continued market development and customer satisfaction. New chlorine resistant PE100 grades are described by Mark Boerakke and William Gauthier in their conference papers. One recent major step forward was the development of high stress crack resistant PE100 materials, which are being increasingly used for demanding installation conditions. However a reliable short term test technique is still being sought and possible contenders are presented in papers by Ernst van der Stok and Dominique Gueugnaut.

Today PE100 pressure pipes are being manufactured up to 2,500mm in diameter and often towed halfway around the world to the installation sites. Design engineers are gaining ever increasing confidence in these systems and Roger Jepson will describe a number of industrial projects in the Middle East and Gerald Beckton from Australia, will describe the installation of a 1600mm PE100 pipeline which averted a major electrical power outage. Also from Australia Alan Whittle describes how the coal seam gas industry has benefitted from the development of new techniques for "ploughing in" larger diameter PE100 pipes. Trenchless installation is also providing benefits in crowded urban environments. Prashant Nikhade will describe how Orange City Water are using horizontal directional drilling (HDD) to provide a "24x7" water supply to the city of Nagpur, India. Another paper describes how the renovation of an old cast iron water main in the Shanghai was achieved without disturbing the foundations of a bridge which carried an important high speed rail link.

The PE100+ Association has also strongly supported the development of specifications, as Pierre Belloir explains: "We firmly believe that strong specifications and standardisation give the end users confidence in PE pipe systems and in a paper with Steve Beech and Christophe Salles I will explain how this has helped bring success in the PE100 pipe market. We hope that you will be there to listen to our paper and some of the other 130 papers that will be presented at the conference."

