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ARRK to unite their four UK companies into one to offer customers the single source solution

Global Product Development specialists ARRK have announced their intention to unite their four UK companies into one company.

The move, unveiled by Chairman Toshihiro Araki, will be driven by the Managing Director of ARRK's UK operations, Tony Lowe, and is intended to offer clients the benefit of a wide range of integrated services from this single source company. The new company will be called ARRK Europe Ltd. This new entity will allow greater coordination of services for its customers in design, engineering, prototyping, tooling and low volume manufacturing.

Traditionally the four ARRK businesses have operated independently, coordinating their activities where required to meet customer needs. Creating a single company will simplify customer access by providing the opportunity for a dedicated point of contact for multidisciplinary projects and shared resources. This will potentially reduce programme development time and introduce greater efficiencies. In addition, ARRK Europe Ltd will be able to enhance its full line capability from design to production, delivering best in class for service and product development.

ARRK R&D Ltd and NPL Technologies Ltd will begin the transition by merging into ARRK Europe Ltd by the end of March. It is ARRK's intention to merge its two other mainstream businesses, ARRK PDG (Prototyping) and ARRK Tooling (Tooling & Moulding), into the new company at a later date.

Tony Lowe explains: "It is well known within the industry that ARRK offers a wide variety of services, however, it has sometimes been difficult for our customers to appreciate the full service offering and how we have worked together over the years. By joining forces as one entity, our customers now have the ideal solution for their product development and low volume manufacturing needs. Customers can choose to continue to use our services on an individual basis or they can benefit from our integrated full line design to market solution. These services include design, engineering, prototyping, tooling and low volume manufacturing – all from one company. The unification of our businesses will result in a stronger and more adaptable organisation benefiting customers across the UK and mainland Europe.

We have set ourselves the challenge of completing this integration by the end of the year, during which time we will maintain the high level of quality and service our customers have come to expect.”

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Profiles:

ARRK R&D Limited

ARRK R&D employs over 500 direct and indirect engineering staff within the UK, Europe and Asia. The company's core service portfolio includes design engineering, analysis & simulation, testing, prototype and low volume production builds plus permanent and contract recruitment solutions. ARRK's engineering services can be provided onsite, at the client site, or via its low cost outsourcing capabilities in India, Eastern Europe and Asia.

NPL Technologies Limited

NPL Technologies' design, manufacturing and project management team have a reputation for being best in class when resourcing tool and production solutions for the automotive, aerospace medical and defence industries.

The product range offered is extensive, from prototype component manufacture, complete vehicle model stacks, fully CNC machined aluminium E-Cube, through to production tooling and fixtures.

All of the above can be manufactured on one site using our extensive manufacturing facility which includes large 5-axis CNC machining and autoclaves to support our composite business.

ARRK PDG Limited (Prototyping Division)

ARRK PDG provides an extensive range of services to engineers and designers from a wide range of industries. With a wealth of prototyping technologies, capacity, materials, and staff technical knowhow at the client's disposal, ARRK is ideally placed to offer the best solution to match their requirements.

ARRK Tooling Development Limited

ARRK Tooling specialise in the design, development, manufacture and sourcing of mould tools and components for the plastics processing industry.

Tony Lowe, ARRK UK's Managing Director.

A Chartered Mechanical Engineer, with many years experience of running high tech engineering businesses. Before his current appointment as Managing Director responsible for ARRK's UK operations, he completed a successful Management Buy-In of NPL Technologies (one of ARRK's UK companies) over a ten year period. Prior to that Tony worked for the world renowned engineering consultancy firm Ricardo for 11 years.