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tinsley

Newsletter 07/09

Tinsley moves to new home

Tinsley has moved to a new, state-of-the-art headquarters complex in Surrey.

The company has consolidated all of its manufacturing, technical support, sales, shipping and administrative operations at one site in Merstham near Redhill.

Parent company Hartest Precision Instruments (HPI) has closed its two existing sites at New Addington and Kingston and has relocated its 80-strong workforce to the single centralised location, which has been specially re-fitted to meet the particular needs of its four manufacturing businesses.

Tinsley, which is celebrating its 105th year in business, is a market leader in the supply of resistance measurement instruments, calibration technologies, precision thermometry and transformer test equipment to customers worldwide. It also manufactures the Henson range of ophthalmic products, which is used in most UK ophthalmic practices, and underwater submarine cable fault detection equipment.

"As a traditional British manufacturing business, based in the South East, we are now something of a rare breed," said Tinsley managing director Nigel Rose. "This move reinforces our commitment to our markets and to industry in this region proving that there is still hope out there despite all the doom and gloom."

For the first time, Tinsley will carry out its manufacturing on the same site as the other three HPI group companies so taking advantage of facilities customised to meet its requirements. The Redhill site boasts warehousing, manufacturing and substantial office accommodation of just under 24,000 sq ft (2,210 sq m).

The location was carefully chosen for its close proximity to the M25 motorway, its railway link at nearby Merstham station and ease of access to both Gatwick and Heathrow airports essential for the shipment of Tinsley's goods to the many International customers they serve. Also as more than 80 per cent of the group's business is accounted for by export, the new HQ is ideally placed for welcoming visitors and business partners from overseas.

The group also required a site that was approximately midway between its two existing premises to ease the effects of the relocation for their staff, a familiarisation visit for all employees was held well in advance of the move.

This is the fourth step in the group's development programme following the integration of Tinsley and the three other HPI businesses – ASL, Sheen, and Wallace – in 2005, which was followed by a major rebranding exercise and increased investment in sales and marketing resource.

"We were extremely fortunate to find an existing building that was exactly right for us," said Mr Rose. "We have now carried out a series of refinements including adding purpose-built clean rooms for the manufacture of Tinsley's ophthalmic instruments.

"We are now positioning ourselves for the future by streamlining and improving our operational efficiencies in placing all of our key staff close to one another at Redhill," said Mr Rose. "This will give us considerable communication and administrative benefits as well as improving the cross-fertilisation of skills, ideas and sales opportunities."

Tinsley extends resistor range

Precision instrument manufacturer Tinsley is now able to offer an extended range of the renowned Wilkins Resistor with values available from 1 to 10,000 ohms.

Based on the groundbreaking design work of the renowned Dr Wilkins of the NPL, Tinsley has continued to develop and modify the construction to produce what is now one of the most stable and accurate resistance standards of its type in the world.

Tinsley is a global market leader in calibration technologies, precision thermometry and ophthalmic products as well as electrical measurement. It was founded over 100 years ago and is now part of the Hartest Precision Instruments group based at a new headquarters complex in Redhill, Surrey.

Sales manager Dave Attreed says the Wilkins Resistor remains the primary resistance reference standard for many leading test houses.

“Although many major national laboratories have moved to Quantum Hall Effect systems, for many others and particularly secondary calibration laboratories, Wilkins Standard Resistors provide traceability to the international standards,” he says.

One of the unique features of the Wilkins is its very low AC/DC difference. These standard resistors exhibit a change in resistance as low as one part in a million* when measured using AC current as opposed to DC current.

This feature has made them eminently suitable for use with high accuracy AC Resistance Thermometer Bridges and they are often supplied as calibration references for these instruments. In fact this is the application they were originally designed for and the reason that the original value was set at 25 ohms, this being the equivalent resistance to high precision PRTs (Platinum Resistance Thermometers).

The 25 ohm version was the starting point for the technology and since its launch in 1969 Tinsley has extended the range and now offer values from 1 ohm to 10,000 ohms.

“The high specification is achieved by not only their precision mechanical construction, but also rigorous selection of materials and many hours of conditioning to ensure their long term stability,” explains Attreed.

For more information visit: www.h-pi.co.uk

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