

# Moulding the Future

Edition **12**

The Latest News and Information



## DIY or outsource assembly?

**We've all been there. Looked at a job and thought "yep I can handle this no problem." Several stressful and separation-inducing days later we concede defeat, throwing down the pricey tools that will never see the light of day again!**

It can be quite liberating, as well as economical, to ask for expert support and shift the ownership of time consuming technical tasks. Particularly intricate assembly, finishing and bespoke printing jobs that are so critical for branding and component performance.

For entrepreneurial companies served by Broanmain Plastics, entrusting our specialist team to handle all your moulding and after-moulding assembly and component decoration requirements can lead to tangible cost savings and enhance product quality. Monika Siakala, manager of our finishing shop, stores and despatch team explains how.

Monika estimates that over 30 percent of components currently moulded on site require some form of finishing. Comprising the machining of parts, drilling, de-flushing, electronic device shielding, pad printing, chrome or coloured plating, serial laser marking, inserting and high quality reaming, you name it and there's a high probability Broanmain has the machines on site to do it.

In fact, Broanmain's growing Assembly and Finishing team has got so busy, they now have a dedicated space featuring a humidity, dust and temperature controlled room.



# Meet Monika



**Having started as an agency operator, Monika understands the assembly nuances and daily challenges better than most. *"Progressing from being an assembler myself, I truly appreciate the Health & Safety aspects of our work and the importance of rotating and multi-skilling our workforce across all tasks and departments. Not only does this alleviate injuries caused by performing repetitive tasks, it enhances quality control and eliminates downtime."***

The technical aspects of the teams' work is never underplayed. Applying inserts at temperatures of +400° requires high concentration. Pad printing involves working with solvents and inks that must be handled with extreme care. Operatives are fully trained on all aspects, for their personal safety and to safeguard colleagues, and undertake constant refresher training to ensure full adherence to the latest safety guidance.

Having invested in a range of new inserters, drills and machining tools, Broanmain's finishing workshop is more extensive than most affirms Monika. However, outsourcing finishing and assembly doesn't mean relinquishing total control of the final component.

In many ways, Broanmain considers itself to be a natural extension of an OEMs in-house engineering team, has robust service level agreements and keeps customers informed of all the latest techniques and finishing options. *"Not only do we have an extensive range of equipment, Broanmain also has carefully controlled processes, quality checks and Kanban monitoring to maintain consistent product integrity,"* comments Monika. A first off sample is checked in every production run, no matter how large or small.

This collaborative spirit extends right across the business, from moulding to despatch. It is one of the primary attributes that contributes to the company's average 95 percent on time delivery (OTD) performance. *"Given the multiple processes involved, having oversight of the entire production cycle helps to ensure that all the elements sync up and are optimised,"* adds Monika.

Although automation is becoming more commonplace in plastic processing environments, the diversity of products that go through the finishing department means some processes, pad printing and inserts, are often best performed manually. Pad printing is a good example, exclaims Monika. *"Operatives are often better placed to respond to the sensitivity of the inks, and can perform a vital quality check as components are loaded in and removed from the machine. That said, tools like our CNC milling machine and profile projector do speed up and improve the accuracy of other finishing and quality control tasks."*



**Monika Siakala, Finishing Shop, Stores & Despatch Manager**

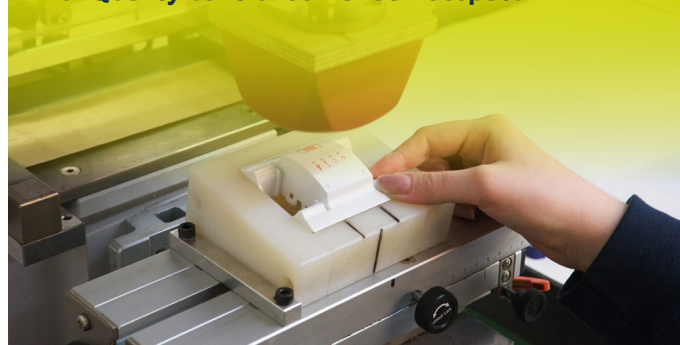
For a fixed fee, Broanmain customers value having access to a greater range of product and supply solutions. *"Because everything is handled under one roof, customers don't have the additional tactical purchasing headaches that they would incur if they outsourced assembly and finishing to another supplier or brought it in-house,"* notes Monika.

To discuss your finishing and assembly requirements, please contact [monikasiakala@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:monikasiakala@broanmain.co.uk)



## ADD VALUE ... NOT STRESS

The total manufacturing cost is the metric that really matters. And finishing touches at a fixed price make all the difference. Choose from our top 10 print, assembly and finishing services, all performed by our dedicated team:

1. **2-part assembly, complex sub-assemblies and full assembly of components**
2. **Precision CNC milling and customisations**
3. **Ultra-sonic welding**
4. **Reaming & tapping**
5. **Pad & screen printing**
6. **Electronic device RFI shielding**
7. **Chrome/coloured protective plating**
8. **Lasered unique identifiers**
9. **Post curing**
10. **Quality controlled Kanban despatch**



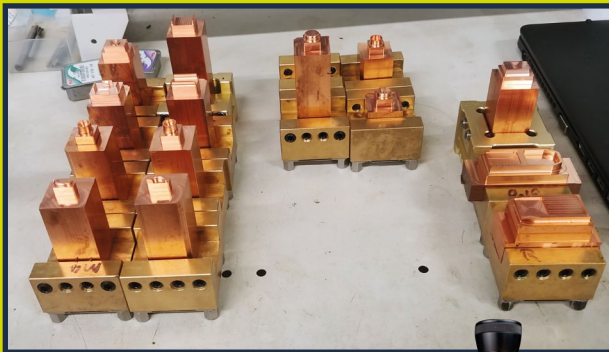
# IN THE NEWS

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 <https://twitter.com/Broanmain>



## ALL GO IN THE TOOL ROOM

Our tool room has been really busy with some exciting new tool designs for a new iteration of a Specac product. This 2+2+2+2 cavity family tool is used to mould polypropylene slider assemblies with overmoulded TPE seal. Check out the final product below.



More information about this product can be found here.

 <https://bit.ly/3u1X8qx>



## SPRING HAS SPRUNG...

So too has the much discussed UK Packaging Tax. As a technical moulder it rarely applies to our customers, however the impact it will have on the wider manufacturing and plastic processing industry should not be underplayed. As always, our friends at Plastrubition are on the case and have filmed a fabulous podcast covering all the questions we want answers to. Well worth 6 minutes of your time. Thank you Ian Chisnall and Joe Putt for summing everything up so clearly.

 <https://bit.ly/3u8nWW7>



Check out the latest high quality pad printing project we are working on for the Aspen Pumps Group. This really intricate project uses a special solvent to ensure the print doesn't erode during use. Especially good for functional products. And a really professional finish too!

 [www.broanmainplastics.co.uk/print](https://www.broanmainplastics.co.uk/print)

## GREAT TO BE BACK...

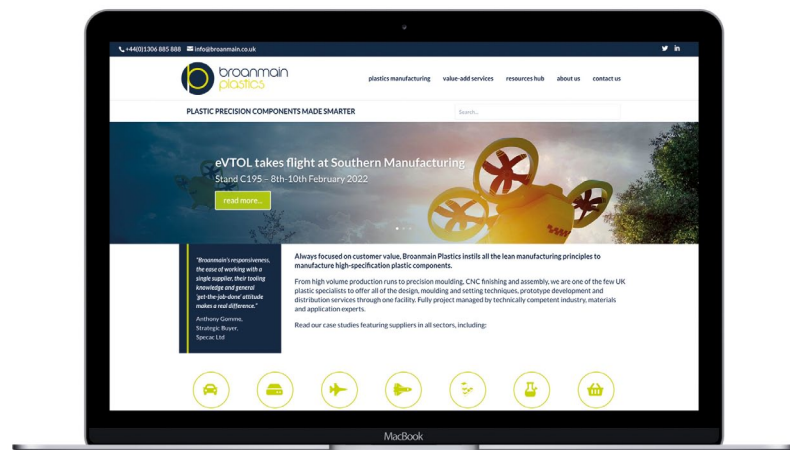
It was truly wonderful to see so many familiar faces back at the Southern Manufacturing & Electronics show in February. There was a real buzz in the air, loads of project talk and some exciting developments on the horizon. Thank you so much for everyone that dropped by for a good catch up and to talk business. The entire team at Broanmain is really excited about what the future holds.



## NEW WEBSITE NOW LIVE

At the start of this year we launched our smart new business website. Stripped back and easier to navigate, with a new picture and people gallery and up to date news hub sharing loads of useful resources and insight. We would love to hear your views. Please share

 [www.broanmainplastics.co.uk](https://www.broanmainplastics.co.uk)





## Staff

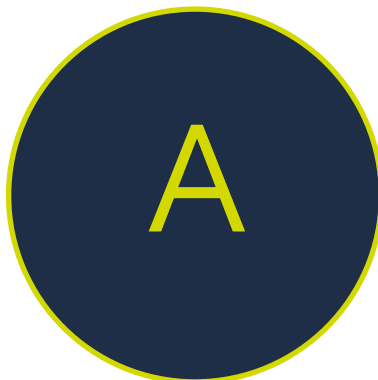
In order to ensure your Broanmain enquires are answered efficiently, please update your contact records:



Dispatch, finishing and  
delivery enquiries

**Monika Siakala**

**[monikasiakala@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:monikasiakala@broanmain.co.uk)**



All accounts questions

**[accounts@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:accounts@broanmain.co.uk)**



New enquiries, production and  
engineering and operational matters

**Thomas Catinat**

**[thomascatinat@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:thomascatinat@broanmain.co.uk)**



Quality control and continuous  
improvements

**Sanka Ranasinghe**

**[sankaranasinghe@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:sankaranasinghe@broanmain.co.uk)**



People, culture & strategy

**Eve Clennell**

**[eveclennell@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:eveclennell@broanmain.co.uk)**



Tooling and precision manufacturing

**Kamil Stec**

**[kamilstec@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:kamilstec@broanmain.co.uk)**



Faygate site production manager

**Martyn Williams**



Managing Director

**Jo Davis**

**[jodavis@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:jodavis@broanmain.co.uk)**



Chairman

**Wilf Davis**

**[wilfdavis@broanmain.co.uk](mailto:wilfdavis@broanmain.co.uk)**