

emould@work

An altogether

better way

of working



"The opportunity to provide real input to what are important toolmaking software developments has been extremely beneficial to us."

Steve Watson, ARRK

"We're well on the way to a complete solution for anyone connected with the injection moulding supply chain, particularly in the areas of sourcing and specifying moulds through to mould design and component ordering: essential for sound project management."

David Odlin, DMS

"Collaborative projects like this mean we can work really closely with tool-making companies, understand their problems better and more easily find ways to resolve them. This project should be a real catalyst for change in the way the industry works together."

Stuart Watson, Delcam

"The results of the emould@work project are vitally important to GTMA members. Working together, we can compete with anyone, anywhere in the world."

Julia Moore, GTMA

Project partners



Faster, better and more productive

emould@work an EU-funded Eureka project focused on increasing the impact mouldmakers can have on the new product development cycle, has culminated in three key technology and business process innovations:

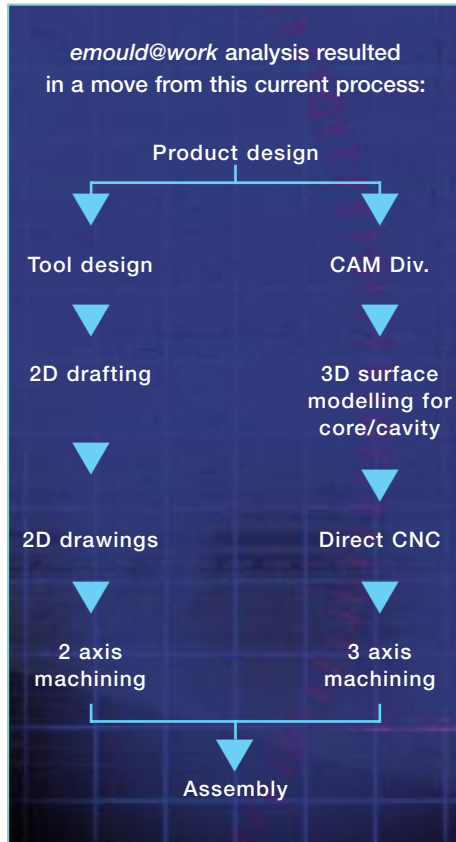
- A team approach integrating CAD and CAM to alleviate bottlenecks
- Wizards to automate key mould design and manufacturing processes
- A portal with powerful supplier sourcing and project management tools to encourage greater supply chain collaboration

Participants in the project have all seen substantial improvements in terms of speed, quality and productivity.

Next steps

emould@work will be hosting a major event early in 2004 addressing the outcomes of the *emould@work* project and offering you the opportunity to quiz the participants on the results. We're also interested in setting up supply chains to pilot *emould@work*. If you'd like to take part, contact Julia Moore at the GTMA on 01844 274222 (email julia@gtma.co.uk), or Stuart Watson at Delcam on 0121 766 5544 (email saw@delcam.com).

1. Integrated CAD/CAM



One integrated team results in a **faster** process, with no need for manual drawings and waiting between teams and systems, and less reworking. It's **better** because the 3D process improved quality and direct CNC removes errors. And it's **cheaper** with more economies of scale, one CAD/CAM system and less reworking.

2. Automation of key processes

emould@work analysed the key mould processes at leading mouldmakers, identifying considerable scope for automation. Intelligent PS Moldmaker 'wizards' (software assistants) were created for dieblock design, mouldbase design, slide cores and slide mechanisms, cooling and electrodes. Machining templates and catalogues of standard and non-standard parts were also developed.

Software assistance helps improve speed, quality and consistency, replacing laborious preparation work with knowledge-based technology, giving the user greater control.

3. Supply chain collaboration

A new internet portal has been developed to allow greater supply chain collaboration. RFQs and PS Team project management can take place online and in real time, quotation data can be managed, and project tasks can either be created directly or imported from MS-Project.

All discussions are logged, all documents can be attached, and all parties to the project can see all relevant information. There's less opportunity for mistakes to be made as the whole process is transparent and accessible.