



Company Bulletin

for EMC, EMP, HEMP & TEMPEST Protection

Issue 33



David Seabury

2023 . . . a year of great significance

For several reasons MPE's 98th anniversary year of 2023 was the most momentous in my 27 years with the company.

Even surmounting our incredible growth experienced over the previous five-year period, product revenues continued to increase. This was most evident for one of MPE's lesser publicised product ranges, ceramic filters, where overall revenues grew by almost 175% on the year before.

So the massive surge in demand for MPE's products across the board went hand in glove with the major investment which we undertook in the expansion of our manufacturing capability.

MPE's production facility was expanded by some 400 m², and back in August new paint spray and drying rooms were installed and commissioned, doubling MPE's capacity in that area. Towards the end of the year, a new automated capacitor winding machine was also brought on stream, again effectively doubling MPE's capacitor winding capacity.

The implementation of this expansion whilst maintaining uninterrupted manufacturing was challenging. However, with careful planning, MPE continued to satisfy clients, spread across 28 different territories, achieving a 93% on-time delivery (OTD) rate measured throughout the year.

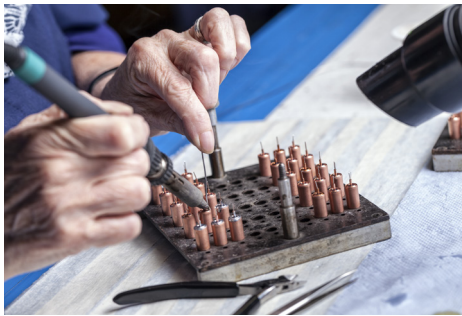
The key to maintaining lead-times and this very high OTD rate was MPE's dedicated and experienced team.

Having completed their apprenticeships with MPE, Ben Meadley and Gillam Prescott moved onward and upward to join our Engineering team, ensuring that the next generation of talent is nurtured. In conjunction with this, the addition of Tobias Okech as senior design engineer increased MPE's capability in Engineering by 50%. The expertise and experience in our Engineering team were further bolstered when John Hughes was appointed as Engineering Director in August.

Investment in people has always been of central importance to MPE, and this is reflected in the dedication and loyalty of our employees. At the end of 2023 their average length of service had increased to 9.4 years, with 20% of our team now having more than 25 years' experience with the company.

In 2023 we sadly had to say goodbye to some longstanding team members who retired. Most notably, Mary Hampson left MPE after three decades of unstinting service in our Manufacturing team.

In the field of technological development, early 2023 saw MPE launch its full range of Mil-Std-188-125-1A compliant HEMP filters. These filters have subsequently been manufactured and supplied for integration into several major defence and infrastructure projects in the USA.



The fine skills of ceramic filter soldering at MPE



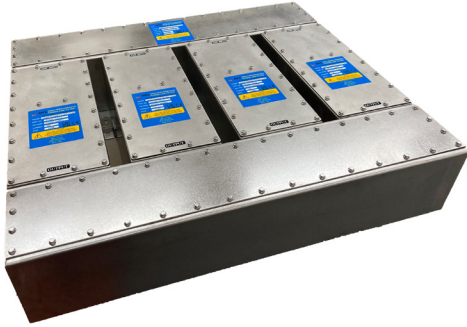
A meeting of the Engineering team at MPE led by John Hughes – Engineering Director (left)



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A 32A 4-line Mil-Std-188-125-1A HEMP filter designed and manufactured by MPE in Liverpool

Our process of continuous development culminating in these Mil-Std-1A HEMP filters reached the pinnacle of achievement in April 2023, when MPE was invited to Buckingham Palace to receive the King's Award for Enterprise: Innovation.

MPE was one of only 148 organisations in the UK to be recognised with a King's Award for Enterprise and, of those, one of only 47 to be recognised for Innovation. To receive this most prestigious of Awards was a true honour and a wonderful tribute to the efforts of the entire complement of people working here at MPE.

During 2023 MPE was named as a Finalist in nine different categories for various industry and business awards – and was indeed the outright winner of three awards for Business Growth, Innovation and Strategy.

Confirming 2023 as the most momentous year of my time at MPE, in November MPE entered the next stage in its evolution, with the company being acquired by NYSE-listed ESCO Technologies, Inc of St Louis, Missouri. Whilst MPE will continue entirely as before, operating from its facility in Knowsley and with no change at all to its product brand, the acquisition provides necessary significant investment and ensures that MPE is best placed to continue its growth strategy for many years to come.

So, as we now move into our 99th anniversary year, MPE's capabilities, revenues and team continue to expand and thrive, and the future for MPE's centenary year and beyond is both assured and incredibly healthy.

David Seabury

