



**MPE**  
Quality, Reliability, Performance

# Company Bulletin

for EMC, EMP, HEMP & TEMPEST Protection

## Issue 18



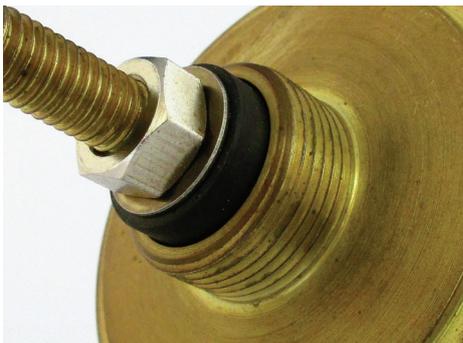
David Seabury – Managing Director, MPE Ltd



David Seabury & Paul Currie, Directors of MPE, at the Future Manufacturing Awards in London, January 2019



The new automated storage carousel at MPE enables an operator to access required parts in seconds



Ground-breaking varistor research conducted at MPE leads to new patents in EMP protection technology

## 2018 . . . an award-winning year

So, with 2018 completed and a new financial year already well under way, it is all too easy to forget many of the activities and achievements which contributed to a strong and successful 2018 at MPE.

Still fresh in our minds is how MPE's year finished with a surge of custom filter activity. That culminated in MPE shipping some of the largest filters we have ever designed and manufactured, each measuring over five metres in length and weighing more than a tonne.

Thinking further back, following record-breaking levels of export business in 2017, the year kicked off with an incredible amount of manufacturing activity. In line with this, MPE invested in the installation of an automated storage carousel for parts, consolidating disparate storage locations and further improving MPE's kitting for manufacture. Such investment, along with the efforts of the whole manufacturing team, contributed to MPE again significantly improving its on-time delivery rates through the year.

On the people front, we were pleased to welcome Marcus Wright as MPE's Manufacturing Manager and Tracy Lowe to the newly created position of Procurement Manager, and in August I had much pleasure in presenting Karen Tighe with her 25-year service award.

I was also delighted that MPE was again able to expand its Apprentice program, now in its third year. August saw Jack Gorman join our program, boosting MPE's Apprentice team to almost 10% of MPE's employee total, with this figure set to grow again during 2019. MPE was also able to progress Keiron Campbell to a Manufacturing Technician role, following the achievement of his HND qualification.

MPE's Distribution Partner program continued successfully, as did our expansion into new territories. In April 2018 Tokin was appointed as MPE's territory distribution partner for Japan, and this was followed by Milcon in Finland, Kamic in Sweden and Nordic Defence & Security in Norway, all joining our distribution family later in 2018.

A packed event schedule was completed. Commencing in February, MPE exhibited with Strongfield Technologies, our territory distributor for India, at the tenth biennial DefExpo in Chennai, opened by India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Distribution partner support then continued throughout the year, with MPE exhibiting with Euromip at Eurosatory in Paris; with Milcon at the Comprehensive Security exhibition in Lahti, Finland; with Eretec at the EMSEC conference in Seoul; and with Tokin at the SEECAT exhibition in Tokyo, concluding with our presence alongside Xi'An Tech Crown at the EMC China event in Shanghai.

In addition to participation at these events, Paul Currie, our Sales and Marketing Director, delivered papers at both the EMSEC conference in Seoul and EMC China in Shanghai. In August John Lindsay, one of our talented team of Design Engineers, participated as a technical expert, representing the BSI and UK interests, at the IEC SC77 meeting held during the 2018 AMEREM symposium in California.



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Paul Currie presents a technical paper at EMC China in Shanghai, October 2018



MPE supplies equipment filters for the multi-role tanker transport (MRTT) for in-flight refuelling of Airbus A330



45m long, this massive EMC test chamber in South Korea for testing warplanes & ground weapons systems incorporates MPE power line & control line filters

In November MPE exhibited with great success at the Electronica trade show in Munich. MPE's next exhibition will be in conjunction with IMCA, our Silver distribution partner for Turkey, at the 14th International Defence Industry Fair (IDEF) in Istanbul at the beginning of May.

Back at base, MPE's commitment to, and investment in, continuous ElectroMagnetic Pulse (EMP) research and development, resulted in two patent families covering the UK, Europe and USA. The first family of patent applications relates to MPE's latest feedthrough varistor system, which dramatically increases switch-on speed, whilst the second set of applications concerns a varistor solution that may be integrated into many types of power cords or plugs.

Over the year MPE once more delivered solutions for a host of high-profile applications that included the Airbus A330 refuelling aircraft, turret crew training simulators for the British Army's Ajax armoured fighting vehicles (AFVs), and, for the Korean Government, one of the largest EMC test chambers ever built anywhere in the world.

All of the above contributed to the unexpected yet fantastic result of MPE being either shortlisted for, or winning, a number of prestigious national and regional awards in the course of 2018.

Starting in May, Paul Currie, our Sales and Marketing Director, was shortlisted by the Institute of Directors (IoD) in their Director-of-the-Year awards. Paul also went on to be recognised by the EEF North-West Region, receiving their Leadership award. MPE was shortlisted in the Knowsley Business Awards, won two EEF North-West awards and was also runner-up nationally within two categories at the EEF's Future Manufacturing Awards, held in London in January 2019.

To sum up, such an award-winning year is going to be a hard act to follow but, given the activities completed and milestones achieved during 2018, I am confident that MPE is certainly in the best position to do so!