



FGL BUYS KNT PRECISION

FGL Precision Works Ltd. (Concord, Ont.) has bought another mouldmaker, KNT Precision Industries Ltd. (Brampton, Ont.). FGL vice-president Tom Meisels says he expects this to be just the first such acquisition by his company.

Last year, Meisels and a partner, Sol

FGL remains focussed on its main market, large moulds for injection and structural foam moulding, so that the purchase of KNT, which makes mostly small to medium-sized precision moulds, is a departure from the company's previous focus.

"The industry is changing," Tom Meisels says, "and customers are looking more for a one-stop shop. We can tap into each company's strengths here, and supply a wider range of moulds."

KNT has equipment FGL does not have, as well as a well-trained workforce, he adds. And while FGL is currently overloaded in its design department, KNT has spare CAD capabilities, even though its production area is backed up.

"You hear it time and again, but it's still true that getting good people is the hardest thing in this industry," he says. "KNT has had an in-house apprenticeship programme for some years."

Meisels says that FGL will probably be making other acquisitions in future. These would probably be other mould-making companies whose capabilities would complement FGL's own, although manufacturers with other product lines that fit the moulds business could also be considered.

FGL's Tom Meisels



Agranti, who owns rotomoulder Sherlon Plastics in Cambridge, Ont., bought FGL from Meisels' two uncles, Frank and Leslie. With Tom's late father George, Frank and Leslie Meisels founded the company in the 1960s, their initials giving the company its name.

FGL MOULD WINS CONTEST

FGL Precision Works Ltd. (Concord, Ont.) was the winner in the Material Handling section of the new product design contest held at the recent conference of the Structural Plastics Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers, in Boston, Mass. Out of 80 entries, FGL's mould design for a large blue structural foam crate came first. This is the fourth such award FGL has won. Company president Frank Meisels says the mould took close to 1,000 hours to design, and weighed close to 90,000 lb.

The finished mould had to be capable of making the crate in two forms: a solid, five-sided crate, for liquids, and a version with louvred openings on all five faces, for shipping vegetables. The crate takes a 150-lb shot.

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"The industry is changing"

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Creating a one-stop mold shop