



PHOENIX OPTICAL TECHNOLOGIES LTD

St. Asaph Business Park, Glascoed Road, St. Asaph, Denbighshire, LL17 0LJ

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■ LEFT:
CEO
Tony
Palfreman.

After 25 years Phoenix just keeps on rising...



■ Phoenix Optical Technologies is celebrating its 25th anniversary and the huge achievement of a £1 million contract order placement.

Testimonial from James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd...



■ Vale of Clwyd MP
James Davies.

"Phoenix Optical Technologies is a forward-looking and increasingly important business, not only locally and regionally but also nationally.

"This has been acknowledged by a number of high-level visits to their premises on the part of key influencers and decision-makers. As a supplier to companies worldwide, they take an interest in current affairs and support their staff by giving them unique opportunities to learn more about developments in the political sphere, and how these affect them.

"Phoenix has an excellent apprentice scheme in place that allows new starters to gain a broad knowledge of optical manufacturing, before choosing to specialise in a particular manufacturing field. Many of their employees started off with them as apprentices and have grown through the company, becoming team and section leaders in their specialist areas."

PHOENIX Optical Technologies (POTL) is celebrating its 25th anniversary and the huge achievement of a £1 million contract order placement.

The innovative and highly-regarded optical manufacturing business – which specialises in optical components such as lenses, prisms, plano optic windows, mirrors and filters – has been awarded the prestigious contract from a world leading infrared camera manufacturer in Europe. POTL is now regarded as one of the customer's top-tier suppliers and first alternative when outsourcing components.

More than 45 staff work at POTL, which is located on St Asaph Business Park. The forward-thinking company holds long-term contracts with major defence companies and supplies products to customers all over the world. The company offers infrared and glass lenses, windows, a full diamond-turning facility – one of the largest in Europe – prism manufacture and optical blanks service which contains glass mouldings, cut discs and slab glass.

The company also offers a toughened glass process, PX4 Armourdillo, which is unique and copyrighted to POTL. It houses the latest measurement and test equipment and machinery.

POTL was established in 1991. The business grew so much, it became too large for its former site in Rhyl and was relocated to St Asaph Business Park over three sites. Over the past 10 years, POTL has achieved incredible success with the addition of CNC polishing (spherical lens polishing) and diamond-turning and its twin lap flat polishing department.

However, the company still prides itself on its original business ethos – delivering an optical blanks service.

In June, POTL took part in a live TV debate with UK Government Transport Secretary Chris Grayling about Brexit. Staff questioned

Mr Grayling and an interview was filmed at POTL, which was aired on ITV Wales. The company also received a royal visit after being recognised as an "outstanding" local business, which contributes to global economies.

The company prides itself on working in a clean and controlled environment and strives to produce consistent standards of excellence! POTL's uniqueness is in its ability to offer bespoke optical manufacture. The company does not have any 'catalogue/off the shelf' optics. Each one is completely individual and manufactured to the customer's specific design and requirement. **About the products...**

Optical blanks service: Glass stock: The company has more than 65+ tonnes of glass in stock from a variety of worldwide glass suppliers. Grinding and cut blanks: POTL are able to manufacture ground parts and prisms profiled to varying shapes and sizes with the use of the latest machinery. Moulded lens: Phoenix has two furnaces, seven annealing kilns and hundreds of on stock-moulding tooling which allows a fast and efficient service.

Toughened glass: The company specialises in toughened glass windows and HUD combiners for commercial and military applications. Before shipment to customer, they record a live drop-ball test, involving a one-kilogramme ball dropped from up to six metres, which represents a bird-strike on a plane window during flight.

Visible optics: A wide range of visible optics can be made with lens sizes ranging from 5mm diameter to 350mm diameter. The components are prisms, lenses, windows and filters using the latest CNC polishing, grinding and edging machines.

IR Optics: Phoenix started producing infrared optics many years ago after the purchase of the first diamond-turning machine. From that base, the company has added a large range of Infra-red windows and filters and spherical polished lenses.

Machinery and Metrology capability POTL has extensive state of the art machinery and testing equipment consisting of Twin lap and CNC polishers, Fisba interferometry, five diamond-turning machines and full edging and generating support.

A substantial investment by our CEO has been made over a period of many years into the latest technologies available within the industry to ensure the products remain at the highest level of quality.

artemis
OPTICAL

All the team at Artemis would like to congratulate Tony and his team at Phoenix for winning such a large contract and wish you every success for the future.

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Phoenix Optical
on their
25th Anniversary.

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Wishing Phoenix Optical Technologies continued success

CASTLE-TECH



CONGRATULATIONS

to PHOENIX OPTICAL TECHNOLOGIES for the award of the contract, we look forward to continuing to support you in the future.

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Congratulations to our friends at POTL!! Great news for the community of St Asaph



■ Technical Manager
Wes Smith.



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Meet the team

Tony Palframan – CEO	Giovanni Deramo – Finance
Karen Pugh – Quality	Jill Langley – HR
Steve Knight – Production manager	Sales team
Gareth Davies – Optical blanks	Karen Driver
Wes Smith – Technical	Lizzie Peters
	Sophie Palframan
	Alex Jones

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We are pleased to support Phoenix Optical Technologies.

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Clwyd Fire protection congratulates all at Phoenix Optical Technologies on your 25th anniversary

The reasons why we enjoy working at POTL

Gareth Davies – longest serving staff member

"I have worked at POTL since the business began and am the company's first employee. I have undertaken various roles throughout the company during this time. Phoenix has provided me with a long career and I look forward to this continuing in the future.

"Tony has grown the business to what it is today and I have had the pleasure of working alongside him and have many good memories of Phoenix over the years. The company is ever expanding and I am glad to still be part of it today."

Wesley Smith – has been with POTL for 20 plus years and is part of the senior management team

"I started working at POTL in 1996. Serving a three-year apprenticeship scheme and having worked in various areas of manufacture within

the organisation, the knowledge obtained helped me gain a broad range of expertise within the optics industry.

"Working in a small/medium-sized business gave me the opportunity to develop myself into more senior positions within the company. Phoenix has offered me a good career path and although challenging, it is rewarding, not just for me but for all of the team here whose work ethic collectively is to strive for a further successful 25 years.

"My 21 years of service has been enjoyable and I look forward to an exciting future based on our new opportunities and projects. It is our job at Phoenix to continually retest old assumptions and seek new ideas."

Adam Jones – started as an apprentice, now section leader

"I have been working here since I started my apprenticeship nine years ago and I have been given the full opportunity to develop within Phoenix. I have worked in various departments and have enjoyed working on the challenging projects we produce. I am now a section leader of my own department and work with new apprentices who are looking to start in the optics industry. Everyone is well driven and together we make high quality optics for range of systems."

Sue Roberts – quality inspector, has been at POTL for 16 years

"I have had the pleasure of working at Phoenix for the last 16 years. Over this time, the company has continued to grow and evolve. This is thanks to the commitment of our loyal staff and our forward thinking CEO, who is very passionate about the company and

this is reflected in its success.

"The work we do at Phoenix is both challenging and rewarding and I look forward to the next 25 years."

Alex Camer – apprentice who is growing within the company

"As an apprentice in Phoenix Optical Technologies, I had every opportunity to experience different types of jobs within the industry of optics, which ranges from tool-making (making polishers, machine tools and moulding tools) to polishing a variety of materials (from glass and plastics to infrared lenses).

"Working for Phoenix has been a great experience, allowing myself to see how vast the optic industry is while doing a Higher National Certificate (HNC) engineering course in college and a level 4 NVQ."



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PHOENIX Optical Technologies is recruiting enthusiastic individuals who want to join a busy and exciting business are being sought. Ideally, optical experience is required but full training is available. Opportunities range across a variety of different roles and departments across all three of POTL's sites on St Asaph Business Park. For more information or to apply, call 01745 584484 or email jill@potl.co.uk

armstrong optical

Many congratulations to Tony and his team at Phoenix Optical, very best wishes for continuing success it has been a pleasure working with you so far.

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