



**star**  
*in action...*

## Qualiturn Products, Hertford

# Multi-axis sliders keep foreign competition at bay



**T**urned parts subcontractor, Qualiturn Products, has streamlined production with the addition of two Star SR-20R11 multi-axis mill-turn centres.

Its Hertford facility now boasts 15 Star sliding-headstock lathes, all of which are less than eight years old and of top specification in terms of the number of CNC axes, driven tools and traverse speeds.

Owner Bernard Groom (right) commented, "In 2004 we lost three contracts for fairly simple components – none requiring reverse-end work – to subcontractors in China, India and Korea, but none in 2005. We make sure that our plant is as modern as possible, allowing us to produce complex parts unmanned in

short cycle times. It means that we do not have to increase our labour costs, allowing us to stave off competition from low-wage economies."

He went on to explain that the latest Star machines are equipped with attachments for sub spindle slotting and for angle milling, drilling and tapping. When installing a new lathe, he opts to buy most of the optional add-ons to provide maximum versatility and productivity when competing for complex, high added value work.

Qualiturn's policies are certainly paying off. Since moving to its new, larger unit two years ago, the company has seen a 20 per cent increase in turnover.

*the name in sliding-headstock technology*

**"Manufacture of complex parts costing pounds rather than pence is the future"**

**Bernard Groom  
Managing Director  
Qualiturn Products Ltd**