



# Vaughan Jones Socket and Screws, Wetherby

## Fastener firm benefits from one-hit mill-turning



One of the country's leading producers of special fasteners is Wetherby-based Vaughan Jones Socket and Screws.

The company, which has been a Star sliding-head lathe user for a decade and now operates four CNC mill-turn sliders, specialises in the manufacture of bespoke aerospace fasteners. Accounting for 70 per cent of turnover, they are supplied into some of the most prestigious aircraft programmes.

A variety of products is produced from high tensile, stainless and mild steels, nickel alloys, brass and bronze, aircraft materials, nylon and other plastics to worldwide standards and customers' specifications. Some of the Star lathes have high-pressure coolant to cope with machining the more exotic materials.

Managing director, Jeremy Hornby, said, "Our investment over the years in

Star's sliding-headstock, multi-axis lathes has allowed us to reduce setting times, increase production capacity and offer faster, more flexible delivery of small to medium sized batches of bespoke fasteners to our customers."

A typical socket screw previously needed five separate operations on a cam auto, taking between 4 and 8 minutes, depending on component size, and lead time from order to delivery was one month.

The same job is now completed in a single visit to a Star SV-32 in a cycle time of 1.5 to 2 minutes and additional operations such as head drilling can also be carried out in-cycle.

Not only is immediate turnaround of urgent orders possible, but economic batch size is also reduced and so too is the amount of work-in-progress on the shop floor. Very few components need a second operation now.

*the name in sales of sliding-head lathes*

**"A majority of productive hours on the Stars are minimally manned, resulting in labour cost savings."**

**Jeremy Hornby  
Managing Director  
Vaughan Jones**