

MCT looks to the skies

This month sees Menard Competition Technologies (MCT) celebrating the fifth anniversary of its relationship with aerospace company, Wilksch. MCT has been machining cylinder heads for Wilksch's innovative three cylinder aviation engines for half a decade and the relationship looks set to blossom into other arenas, as Wilksch grows while endeavouring to keep its key supplier base in the UK.

The Wilksch engines, dubbed WAM 100 and WAM 120, are three cylinder diesel motors, with the ability to also use Jet A1 engine fuel and are seen by some observers as the future for affordable aviation. The units are designed for the kit aircraft market but ultimately will be utilised across the aviation world for areas such as flying schools, once full certification has been acquired. Bigger engines are also to follow from the Gloucestershire-based organisation, for use in the light sport aircraft and larger OEM markets.

Martin Long, chief designer at Wilksch, picks up the story: "Our engines are extremely efficient in that they use less than two thirds of the fuel of a comparable petrol aviation engine. And with no electronics or complex common rail systems, they are extremely simple, with no need for cockpit mixture controls."

He continued: "We've been working with MCT for five years and we're looking to build on the relationship. They're a great team with an extremely strong technical grasp and an exhaustive plant capability. Wilksch is an ambitious organisation but we want to keep our supplier base in the UK, so the partnership with MCT is a perfect one for us."

Kevin Lee, managing director of MCT, said: “Wilksch is an innovative, ground-breaking organisation and as such one that shares a common philosophy with us. We enjoy working with the Staverton team and hope to be ever more closely-involved in its test and manufacturing capabilities.”

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For more information or photography, please contact Richard Postins or David Price at Prova on 00 44 1926 776900.

Notes to editors:

Menard Competition Technologies Limited (MCT) is based at Leafield Technical Centre, near Witney, Oxfordshire and offers bespoke solutions to the motorsport, advanced automotive and aerospace sectors. Its United States facility is based in Indianapolis.

Expertise includes total engine design, development and manufacturing capabilities, transmission dynamometer, as well as total project management and track support.

MCT’s customers include leading teams and manufacturers from NASCAR, international sports car series and a number of European and North American single seater championships.

MCT has in excess of thirty year’s experience at the pinnacle of the world motorsport industry. Its management team boasts championship success across F1, sportscars, touring cars, IRL, CART and NASCAR.