

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

...a Plastics Moulding Manager

Dan Freckingham was one of the plastics industry's first Modern Apprentices. He joined his current company, Rutland Plastics, who are based in Oakham in the summer of 1994

His initial training was a mix of internal development supplemented by a series of Further Education programmes as he progressed through his apprenticeship. His list of qualifications is impressive achieving NVQs at Levels 2 and 3 and a BTEC National in Mechanical Engineering and a HNC in Polymer Technology. He plans to gain a Foundation Degree in Polymer Technology as his next target.

His day to day activities are varied and usually challenging. He is now responsible for managing the injection moulding setters and supports their work with mould trialling, specifying materials and process standards. He is a key link between Rutland Plastics and its considerable range of customers. Plastic components are a big part of our everyday lives and Dan likes the challenges that the design and manufacture of new products offer. Working closely with material suppliers and providing recommendations on manufacturing processes form an integral part of Dan's daily routine.

His role has recently been extended to incorporate responsibility for employee training and he has overall responsibility for the development of the company apprentices who are following in his footsteps. He is also a qualified NVQ assessor/verifier which enables him to help other employees in the Company gain the vocational awards he has achieved. Rutland Plastics are recognised as an Investor in People and Dan believes their commitment to training their staff to the highest standards is a key factor of their success.

Outside work, Dan is a keen golfer and also enjoys cycling. All that may have to change soon as he is about to become a father. He also enjoys travel – his job takes him across the UK and into Europe.

He aspires to take on even more responsibilities and continue his professional development. Rutland Plastics have offered him scope to do just that and he believes his career successes to date will continue into the future.

