

Moldes RP - Company presentation

Moldes RP specializes in the production of plastic injection molds, having accurate technical requirements, providing several business sectors. The company was founded in 1990 by its owner, Mr. Rui Pinho.

Moldes RP continuously searches to increase its own technical capabilities. More recently the company modernized and got up to speed with the most recent industrial trends. The company implemented new technologies, yielding improvements in the process of manufacturing mold tools.

We spoke with the owner of the company, Mr. Rui Pinho, and the Technical manager of the company, Mr. Hugo Rosa. Mr. Hugo Rosa is also an expert in the CAM field, with 15 years of experience using different CAM systems.

Moldes RP team's aim is to best fulfill customer expectations and to make sure mold tools are manufactured according to their demands.

Rui Pinho (RP) said: *"We are able to do dimensional control of plastic and steel as well as making jigs, fixtures and gauges for special measurements. We always get up-to-date technologies, in production equipment, project, communication systems and management. Our commitment is to provide high-tech molds just-in-time. Nowadays when short deliveries are a must, Moldes RP employs highly skilled staff, and uses state-of-the-art technology and advanced methods in the production process."*

Moldes RP excels due to the teamwork and close contact with customers, at the beginning of their project.

RP: *"Our project department has large knowledge of the plastics industry and we keep advanced and flexible CAD/CAM/CAE software".*



Rui Pinho, owner and Founder, Moldes RP



Hugo Rosa, Technical Manager, Moldes RP

What was the main reason to use SolidCAM's CAM Software?

Hugo Rosa (HR): *"We decided to acquire the first seat of SolidCAM at the beginning of 2011. At that time we worked with a competitor CAM system. The main reason that prompted the decision to acquire a different CAM, was SolidCAM's unmatched toolpath quality for the milling machines. Besides this, the good partnership with the Portuguese SolidCAM reseller, ISICOM, and the seamless integration of SolidCAM in SolidWorks, that provides excellent CAD integration and associativity, contributed to our decision. Today, following the evolving needs of the company, we got 5 SolidCAM seats, used at 2 plants, each with about 6 CNC milling machines."*

What are the benefits of using SolidCAM?

HR: *“Since the beginning, Moldes RP saw the benefits of using SolidCAM for the programming of CNC Machines. Starting with extremely efficient roughing and smooth machine movements, which lead to an effective increase of tool life, in addition to excellent finish strategies, the improvements were very noticeable. There was an increase in surface quality, resulting in the reduction of manual work during assembly of molds”.*

How SolidCAM and Moldes RP evolved together and how SolidCAM evolved to suit the molds industry?

HR: *“From the beginning, the partnership between Moldes RP and Isicom (SolidCAM’s reseller in Portugal) became stronger and stronger to fit our needs. In the middle of 2011, the 5-Axis Milling Machines arrived at the company, and SolidCAM was the CAM software chosen to drive the 5-Axis machines, since it showed far better functionality and reliability.*

HR: *“SolidCAM greatly facilitated the execution of simultaneous 5-Axis jobs. Specifically in the Molds industry, where every part produced is unique, we need user friendly CAM tools that allow programmers to perform each job well, at the first attempt and within a short time. SolidCAM provides all this and the benefits are especially noticed in the 5-Axis technology”.*

HR: *“Working with SolidCAM means working with a CAM software that improves continuously, delivering the improvements, in each new release, including performance enhancements, new toolpaths (e.g. specific strategies for thin rib features), very useful electrode production and new 5-Axis strategies (e.g. advanced Swarf), that enable programmers to be more efficient in their daily work. We are very excited to see our requests, namely the automation provided by distributed computing, implemented in next SolidCAM 2014 which, we strongly believe, will represent a big step forward for the Molds Industry”.*

Moldes RP works with the concept of “internal supplier”, which means that each department is a buyer and supplier of other departments in the company. Based on this concept, **Hugo Rosa** stated: *“In the last 3 years, as a result of improvements in the CNC machining department, with more efficient toolpaths and increasing the work done with 5-Axis machines, we improved the milling efficiency by **23%**. This results in less delays in delivering machined parts to the next sections of the process chain”.*



How do you consider the impact of iMachining in mold making industry?

HR: *“SolidCAM’s patented iMachining technology is revolutionizing the chip removal performance and is being seriously considered by the company as an important module for improving the efficiency of its process, since it delivers the main challenge for the sector: shorter delivery times. After making the first successful iMachining milling tests, Moldes RP is making some adjustments in its process, especially in the fixtures of parts, to implement the usage of iMachining.”*

What are your future expectations from the CAM industry?

HR: *“Since mold making manufacturing is a very competitive industry, the company needs are continuously growing and we strongly believe that SolidCAM will continue improving with specific features to help mold makers to be more efficient in the machining of complex parts.”*

As a conclusion **Hugo Rosa** said: *“In the molds industry it is necessary to combine excellent toolpath quality and optimum performance, both delivered with SolidCAM’s software”.*

