



Date: 26th March 2015

Contact: Tamsin Jeff-Johnston, Unipart Group Communications
Tel: 01865 383068, email: tamsin.jeff-johnston@unipart.com

NEW UNIPART MANUFACTURING BUSINESS LAUNCHED

Unipart Manufacturing Group (UMG), part of the Unipart Group, has announced the launch of a new business focused on nurturing and delivering high tech engineering and manufacturing capability in Coventry. It plans to create the high skill jobs necessary to support advanced engineering and manufacturing capability in the UK.

The new business will be called Unipart Powertrain Applications and will occupy Unipart's flagship manufacturing site at Beresford Avenue in Coventry. This site also includes the UK's first 'university on the factory floor' – The Institute for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (AME), a partnership between Unipart and Coventry University.

Unipart Powertrain Applications will include the operations currently at the Coventry site which employ around 380 people and provide components for vehicle manufacturers such as Ford, Jaguar Land Rover and Aston Martin Ltd. The new business is expected to grow significantly over the next few years with the addition of new clients and new technologies in its already expanding portfolio, and lead to the creation of around 150 highly skilled roles to support this growth. The new business will continue to manufacture high tech fuel and exhaust systems for next generation automobiles that will provide drivers with major improvements in fuel economy and performance. It will further grow its capacity and capability to become one of the world's largest manufacturers of high pressure gasoline direct injection fuel rails.

According to Unipart Manufacturing Group Managing Director, Carol Burke, the announcement of the new manufacturing business at the Coventry site marks a step change for the business as it seeks to refocus on innovation and high technology.

Carol Burke said: "A few years ago we made a strategic decision to invest in developing products that require advanced engineering capability to meet our customer's needs for emerging low-carbon technology solutions.

"Many sectors such as automotive and aerospace are demanding precision-made products that require more sophisticated manufacturing, product development and test techniques which will benefit from our investment in new facilities and equipment.

2/...

“Today’s launch of Unipart Powertrain Applications builds on the 25 year heritage of the Unipart Way philosophy underpinned by a culture of innovation and continuous improvement. The combination of deep manufacturing expertise and the advanced engineering and thinking being developed in conjunction with the AME should position the business for strong growth in to the future.

“It means that we can offer customers innovative product design and manufacture using the most sophisticated technologies and supported by an on-going supply of some of Britain’s brightest and best trained young engineers.”

- ends -

Editors’ Notes:

About the Unipart Group

The Unipart Group operates worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £1billion. It is a leading UK manufacturer, full service logistics provider and consultant in operational excellence.

Operating across a range of market sectors, including automotive, manufacturing, mobile telecoms, rail, retail and technology, Unipart offers a breadth of services from third party logistics to expert consultancy.

All Unipart sites operate according to The Unipart Way. This is a philosophy of working underpinned by tools and techniques that inspires efficiency, flexibility and outstanding customer service in any process.

The company, which is based in Oxford in the UK, has a growing number of international sites supporting a wide range of blue chip clients. For more information visit: www.unipart.com.

About Unipart Manufacturing Group

Unipart Manufacturing Group (UMG) has several manufacturing sites across the Midlands. It is part of the Unipart Group, which has a strong engineering heritage, much of which has been based on its manufacturing operations.

UMG manufactures a number of products in the UK including exhaust systems, steel and plastic fuel systems and powertrain components for vehicles, heat exchange devices and parts for the rail industry and provides services to the aerospace industry.

In recent months, UMG has been successful in securing significant research and development funding both in its own right and also as part of a consortium allowing them develop the next generation of manufacturing products and processes which helps UMG stay at the forefront of its field. For more information visit: www.unipartmanufacturing.com

About The Institute for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (AME)

Unipart Manufacturing has joined forces with Coventry University, supported by the Higher Education Funding Council for England's Catalyst Fund, and developed the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (AME).

This exciting partnership is a UK first, establishing a new and innovative teaching environment that will create a step change in the higher education model for manufacturing engineering degree courses through enhanced activity-led learning. AME brings together the best in academia, industry and R&D directly on the factory floor in a bid to developing new products, processes and technologies on Unipart's Coventry site. For more information visit: www.ame.co.uk