

2 June 2014

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Innomech appoints new MD as company founder David Beale retires**

Tim Mead has been appointed as managing director (MD) of automation consultancy GB Innomech (Innomech) and takes over from retiring MD David Beale, who remains as company chairman and to provide engineering and operational advice as required. Tim was previously commercial director and will now oversee all operational activities, as well as the consultancy's business development programme.

Tim Mead and Innomech's senior management team will provide a seamless transfer for clients and staff as they are already managing most aspects of the business, including all major client relationships and projects. The management change is also the final stage of a succession plan that was started two years ago when David Beale decided to work part-time, enabling him to spend more time pursuing other interests on his approach to retirement.

One of David's key achievements outside of Innomech has been to build a replica E2H Percival Mew Gull monoplane that was completed and flown for the first time last year. David started with some structural drawings, a few components, a de Havilland Gypsy Queen 1 engine from 1936 and the ambition to build a replica Mew Gull as it was raced when Charles Gardner won the 1937 King's Cup air race. The resulting plane has been hailed as 'a remarkable feat' and has helped David secure two major awards from The Vintage Aircraft Club: the Desmond Penrose Trophy for 'Vintage Aeroplane of the Year', and the George Davidson Cup for David's enduring contribution in helping to keep vintage aircraft flying.

David Beale founded Innomech in 1990 and has helped to establish one of the UK's leading automation consultancies with a reputation for automating some of the most complex and challenging manufacturing processes. The company develops equipment for product assembly and test in sectors such as aerospace, pharmaceutical and cleantech; one of its most recent successes has been developing the world's first automated manufacturing system for alkaline fuel cells for industrial power generation for AFC Energy.

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Innomech has also recently spun out and re-launched its manufacturing division as Nexus Intelligent Engineering ([www.nexus-ie.co.uk](http://www.nexus-ie.co.uk)). The division was established in 2001 when the company was appointed to repeat build and support pharmaceutical capsule-filling systems for Capsugel, and has built low volume and small batches of equipment for customers in the medical device and FMCG sectors.

#### **Notes to editors:**

##### **About GB Innomech**

GB Innomech (Innomech) specialises in automating highly complex and labour-intensive manufacturing processes to maximise outputs, improve product quality and boost business performance. The company works with major international manufacturers in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, medical devices and environmental, as well as earlier-stage businesses looking to bring breakthrough technologies or products to market.

Innomech has a growing market reputation for solving the toughest of manufacturing problems by the early identification and management of risk, often cross-fertilising technologies and techniques from a range of industry sectors. All projects from initial feasibility studies through to building production-scale machines are conducted to high specification pharmaceutical industry standards and are designed to comply with GAMP5, FDA and other international standards.

The company was founded in 1990, is based at The Innovation Centre in Witchford, north of Cambridge and was awarded The Queen's Award for Enterprise 2009 to recognise its sustained growth in international markets.

For additional information about GB Innomech please visit or contact:

- [www.innomech.co.uk](http://www.innomech.co.uk)
- Press enquiries to Simon McKay on +44 (0)1353 741075 or email to [simonmckay@innomech.co.uk](mailto:simonmckay@innomech.co.uk)
- All other enquiries to Tim Mead at Innomech on +44 (0)1353 667394

#### **Photographs**

Print quality JPEGs of the images below have been sent attached to the original email or are also available on request from Simon McKay (details above). Additional images are also available:



- 1 Tim Mead has been appointed managing director of automation consultancy GB Innomech and takes over from retiring MD and company founder David Beale.  
Credit: GB Innomech



- 2 David Beale, who retires as MD of GB Innomech started working part-time two years ago to spend more time pursuing his other interests including building a replica E2H Percival Mew Gull monoplane. This image shows David flying his plane at RAF Henlow Airfield in May this year.  
Credit: Terence Burke



- 3 David Beale's replica Mew Gull – shown above on its maiden flight in 2013 – has been hailed as a 'remarkable feat' and has helped the former MD of GB Innomech to secure two major awards from The Vintage Aircraft Club ([www.vintageaircraftclub.org.uk](http://www.vintageaircraftclub.org.uk))

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