



Optimec Limited

Precision Lens Measurement



Hello everyone, when I last wrote to you my subject matter was all about investing in the future and investing in quality. Well, those are big topics, so, with your permission I'd like to add a little more to each in this issue. Of course, on the way I'll take the opportunity to update you on "all things Optimec too".

ISO 9000 is a term I'm sure you are all familiar with. As this major foundation of world quality systems is undergoing a major rebuild I'll be asking "what does that mean to you and your business"?

The heart of many of the Optimec measuring instruments is our proprietary design cylinder and probe arrangement. Clever and simple – like all good ideas.

Calibration Is King!



Optimec instruments are designed and built to operate in a wide variety of demanding environments. For most that will mean a busy Lens Production Lab where the Optimec instrument may be being used "in the line" or in a more "off line" role like Quality Control. Either way it's important that the key metrology in the lab measures accurately and reproducibly. One of the ways to ensure this with Optimec instruments is by the regular use of calibration and test pieces. Optimec has always provided such test pieces but due to the advanced machine technology now employed at the Optimec plant we're able to move things "up a notch". In response to many requests from our customers we are now able to produce a full range of test pieces and can even produce a bespoke set of test pieces specifically targeted at the product dimensions that you are most often using. A further enhancement to the

Surprising then that our latest investment in new machine technology is allowing us to further enhance the “heart” of every Optimec instrument.

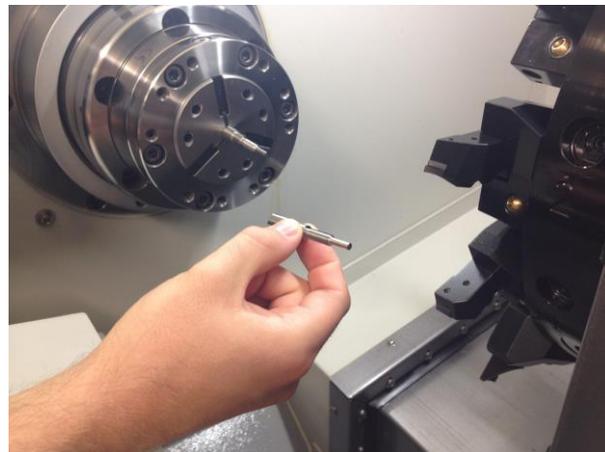
Check, check and check again – that could be a description of the day to day working life of an Optimec instrument. How do you ensure that your instrument is measuring as accurately as it should? Read on.

Colin Richards
Operations Director



Optimec Quality System means that we are also able to certify the accuracy of any test pieces we supply. Something that should appeal to all you Quality Managers out there! Like to know more about what is possible? Want to talk about your own range of bespoke test pieces? give us a call on +44 (0)1684 892859 or e-mail me direct on crichards@optimec.com

Running On All Cylinders



The heart of all JCF, JCF-F and Chiltern measuring systems is surely the cylinder and probe arrangement. Designed to centre, support, measure and present each contact lens under test, the cylinder and probe assemblies in Optimec instruments are like all really good ideas...essentially very simple. However, simple in design does not necessarily mean simple to manufacture...especially not when you have in mind the kind of accuracy that our application demands. Enter our new Compact Turn 52 LTY CNC Lathe with live tooling & 560 Machining Centre with 4 axis. These amazing new CNC machines have now made themselves at home in the Optimec facility and completed their initial commissioning. Now, specifications aren't't everything but if you are involved

in soft lens manufacture you might appreciate this more than most. Working in 316 Stainless Steel the new machines are able to produce components to +/- 0.005mm. That's what we call accurate! Why is that important? Well, we like to think that you'll draw confidence from the knowledge that your instruments are manufactured carefully and accurately to exactly the right dimensions. We also hope that you'll become increasingly aware that is how we try to run all aspects of our business...and finally we hope you'll agree that makes Optimec your preferred partner for "all things metrology".

If you have a measurement challenge and you'd like a second opinion just give us a call on +44 (0)1684 892859 or alternatively e-mail us on enquiries@optimec.com

ISO 9000 - Run That Past Me Again



Wherever you stand on the issue of "quality" and it's importance in product design, manufacture and eventual delivery to the intended user, few would argue that the 9000 series of standards from ISO has significantly "shaped" the way products are made in our

facilities. Whether you are making contact lenses or, as we do, the instruments with which to measure them, you will have encountered these series of standards in one form or another. First published in 1987 (doesn't that seem an awfully long time ago?) the 9000 series has consistently been the most popular series of standards for quality management across the globe. Now, with the best part of 30 years "experience" behind them, some elements of the 9000 series are undergoing further amendment and re drafting. Why? The stated objectives are to ensure that the standards remain as relevant and useful as they have been in the past and to ensure that the standards continue to deliver confidence in an accredited organisations ability to consistently provide product that meets customer and regulatory requirements. We find ourselves very much in agreement with that sentiment. With this in mind we encourage dialogue with the relevant departments or individuals at all our customers with a view to further harmonizing mutual requirements. In short – we think we can do a better job for you if we better understand what is most important to you – make sense? If you think it does or if you would just like to discuss matters a little further then give us a call on +44 (0)1684 892859 or alternatively e-mail us on enquiries@optimec.com



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