

## 'Machinery Market' 17<sup>th</sup> February 2005

### MRP benefits

The 123MRP system from Rent-IT Systems UK Ltd, Totton (Tel: 023 8086 1003), has provided significant savings for a company in Northern Ireland. Based in County Antrim, Canyon Europe Ltd has a staff of 70 and manufactures injection-moulded products. With sales, production and stock control using a series of separate spreadsheets, information was not visible between departments, so errors were commonplace. Plant manager Graeme Bennett says: "We had customers telling us that we needed an MRP system, and we needed better internal methods for our ISO accreditation. We looked at several systems that cost up to £50,000, plus another £15,000 for training five staff and annual maintenance costs of 18%. Then we were introduced to 123MRP."

After two Canyon staff attended training courses in October 2003, the decision was taken to acquire 123MRP, and Mr Bennett began to install it himself in February 2004. "I actually had not attended any of the training courses, but I was able to install the system purely through the documentation, with internal assistance from those who were trained, plus telephone support." The installation was straightforward, and the system was live across all departments within two months. Communication within Canyon improved dramatically, as there was now a single repository of information accessible by all departments. Errors associated with the traditional work-flow process disappeared overnight. In addition, the amount of paperwork generated was halved.

Stock control had previously caused major problems. "Now, we perform a rolling stock-take of a few items, which simply confirms that what the system is reporting is what we actually have on the shelves. As a direct result, stock-holding of work-in-progress components has been reduced by 30%, which is about £28,000 per month in real terms. We can now operate a Just In Time stock-holding policy, which is especially important for seasonal items, as we don't end up holding products that will not be used for another year."