**Using low volume 3D printing to demonstrate post-processing in metal additive manufacturing | Holdson**

**West Yorkshire-based electrochemical polishing machine tool supplier, Holdson, needed a small number of 3D printed parts to demonstrate how its Electroform electrochemical polishing machines work in the post-processing of additive manufacturing (AM) metal components.**

**Challenge**

Holdson approached the 3M BIC’s technology team ahead of attending an Additive Manufacturing (AM) Expo in Frankfurt called Formnext. The company needed a low volume batch of 3D printed parts to display on its stand to showcase how its Electroform electrochemical polishing machines work for the post-processing of AM metal components.

**Solution**

3M BIC’s technology team printed several parts on its AM400 machine in stainless steel, working with complex surfaces and different designs. Holdson then applied its specialised electrochemical polishing process to the parts ready for displaying at the event, to demonstrate the before and after results of its Electroform polishing technology.

**Outcome**

The 3D printed parts provided visual aids to showcase the product and highlight the results of the technology. They generated a lot of interest, with many people stopping at Holdson’s stand to ask questions about the parts and how the technology works. The event generated hundreds of leads for potential machine sales.

*“At the time, we didn't have in-house access to a 3D printer, and with the event just around the corner, the 3M BIC’s technology team was able to produce the components for us within a quick turnaround.”*

Lauren Brookes, Marketing Executive