

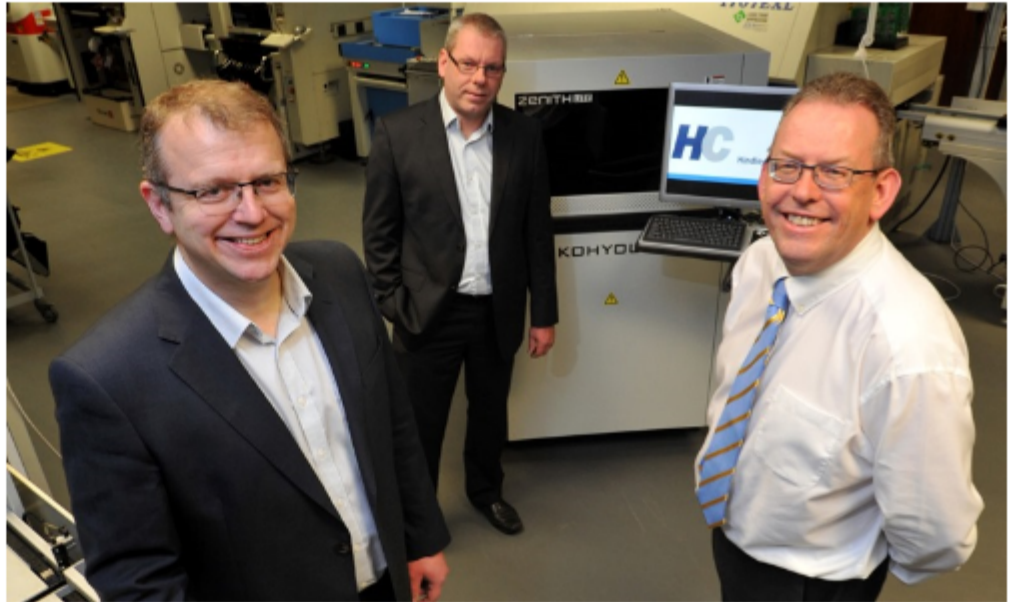


# HINDLEY CIRCUITS STRENGTHENS MANAGEMENT TEAM

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Cramlington-based Hindley Circuits has appointed a new development manager in a bid to drive growth.

Alistair Barnes has more than 20 years of experience in the electronics sector and was most recently an account manager with components distributor Rutronik.

He joins as the electronic assembly services specialist completes its first full year of trading with a £2.5m turnover, having invested £500,000 in equipment during 2017.

"I am delighted to join Hindley Circuits at this pivotal moment," said Barnes. "The investment being made across the business sends a clear message that Hindley has very strong management and is highly resourced. Crucially, there is also a real sense of momentum and determination to succeed.

"My role is to identify clients on the cusp of new product development – in specialist niche markets such as life sciences, environmental, leisure, security and media – and to develop close relationships, that enables them to come to market as quickly as possible."

Barnes is one of a number of appointments made by Hindley during the year, with its headcount now at 36, after its assets were bought following the collapse of its parent company A-Belco. Investors, led by Andrew Lapping, Bim Sandhu, Chris Pennison and Sarah-Jane Moffat, purchased the assets of Opsol Ltd from administrator Deloitte in October 2016 and launched the business as Hindley Circuits.

Chief executive Richard Whitehead said: "We have a £2.6m orderbook going into our new financial year and we are viewing other tremendous opportunities. To move forward at pace, we need to continue to bring in talented and experienced people at all levels and to support them by investing in world class technology and equipment.

"Alistair is a key appointment. He has vast experience in the electronics components sector and a very strong technical background, allowing him to forge watertight partnerships, built on mutual respect, with both technical and purchasing executives in client organisations.

"Alistair appreciates the challenges facing clients and can often offer an alternative solution, that either greatly enhances product performance or drives down cost."