

# CASE STUDY



## KF Training Supports Paragon Rapid Technologies in Next Phase of Growth

NEAA members come together to boost skills in the North East region.

### KF TRAINING

Your business, **but better**

"We work with high growth companies that require extra skills to help them become more competitive. We are finding that many of our clients, including Paragon, are asking for workforce development solutions that can be used as a vehicle to deliver their strategic objectives at a local level. It's great to be working with fellow NEAA member Paragon and playing a key role in its expansion plans."

**Sara O'Brien / Commercial Director / KF Training**



"As a company we've expanded rapidly in recent years but to achieve the next phase of our growth plan we have to improve the skills base of our business. This training scheme will allow us to do that and if we meet our turnover projections we'll be able to create more jobs at Paragon. We are thrilled to be working with KF Training on this exciting project."

**Ian Jobling / Commercial Director / Paragon Rapid Technologies**

### Background

In 2016, prototype specialist, Paragon Rapid Technologies, completed a two-year growth plan which saw turnover rise from £2.8m to £4.1m and staff numbers from 35 to 53. During that period the Durham Tees Valley Airport-based firm recruited a new senior management team, made a six-figure investment in new equipment and streamlined operations to make the business more efficient.

As a result, Paragon Rapid Technologies, which makes rapid prototypes and components for the automotive, motorsport and medical sectors, kick-started an 18-month extensive training programme to upskill all of its employees with the help of Peterlee-based KF Training.

### Approach and Solution

All 53 staff benefitted from the training, which covered strategic management and leadership, sales and marketing, business improvement techniques and store and warehouse management. It is intended the skills boost will trigger further growth at Paragon, which is aiming to ramp up turnover to £7m by 2018.

### Outcome and Advantage

- Upskilling throughout the business to support planned growth and improve overall business performance.
- Structured training programme contributed to Continuous Professional Development for all staff.



#### About KF Training

KF Training delivers strategic and operational business focused skills programmes nationwide to SME's and multi nationals.

#### About Paragon Rapid Technologies

Paragon provides both rapid prototyping and low volume production solutions to its growing customer base. It works closely with customers to produce highly scrutinised models from 3D CAD data, whether it be to visually present a new concept, or to perform as per the finished product for testing.