



Case Study

RAVEN Radio

The RAVEN radio system is an Australian military land-based communications device. In addition to its use as a normal AM and FM transmitter-receiver, it features advanced operating modes appropriate to a hostile environment. The RAVEN radio was developed under the Army's direction and assembled in Australia.

PICTURE: Department of Defence



Quality
Endorsed
Company
AEROSPACE
AS 9100:2004



LOVITT TECHNOLOGIES AUSTRALIA

Lovitt Technologies Australia, under contract to The Plessey Company, manufactured a range of radio and associated equipment encompassing enclosures, cases, lids and covers.

The RAVEN Radio was design and developed for the Australian Defence Department by the electronics development laboratories of The Plessey Company (UK).

The project involved a number of Australian engineers and project managers, and a contractual requirement to undertake manufacture in Australia.

After extensive consultation and negotiation on capability and costing, Lovitt Technologies Australia was selected to undertake the manufacture and supply of enclosures, mounting trays and ancillary hardware to The Plessey Company facility in Meadowbank, NSW.

The thin walled aluminium investment casting, prototyped in the UK, was transferred to Australia. Lovitt Technologies Australia and its casting subcontractor iteratively refined the casting for end-product improvement and compatibility with C.N.C machining facilities. Lovitt Technologies Australia developed the computer programmes, jigs and fixtures to suite the precise machining requirements of the raw casting.

The machined casting was firstly plated. Preparation facilities were established in-house to mask and prime the product for painting to military standards. Lovitt Technologies Australia also undertook the mechanical assembly requirements of fitting thread inserts and ancillary hardware. The final phase involved leak-testing the finished assemblies. The assemblies were returned to The Plessey Company for installation of the electrical / electronic components.

This project established a long term relationship with The Plessey Company, now BAE Systems. For over 10 years, Lovitt Technologies Australia manufactured enclosure assemblies, lids / covers, trays and ancillary hardware in production quantities. The manufacture and supply of small quantities for spares and maintenance continues.

Demonstrated capabilities

- manufacture of enclosures and ancillary hardware
- design-for-manufacturability
- sourcing of raw casting
- precision machining of close tolerance features
- plating and painting
- mechanical assembly
- specialised testing

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