Benefits of Partnering with a Contract Manufacturer That Offers In-House Tooling

In contract manufacturing (CM), speed to market is crucial to the success of any project. A CM with its own tool shop expedites the tooling process, getting the customer into full production even more quickly.

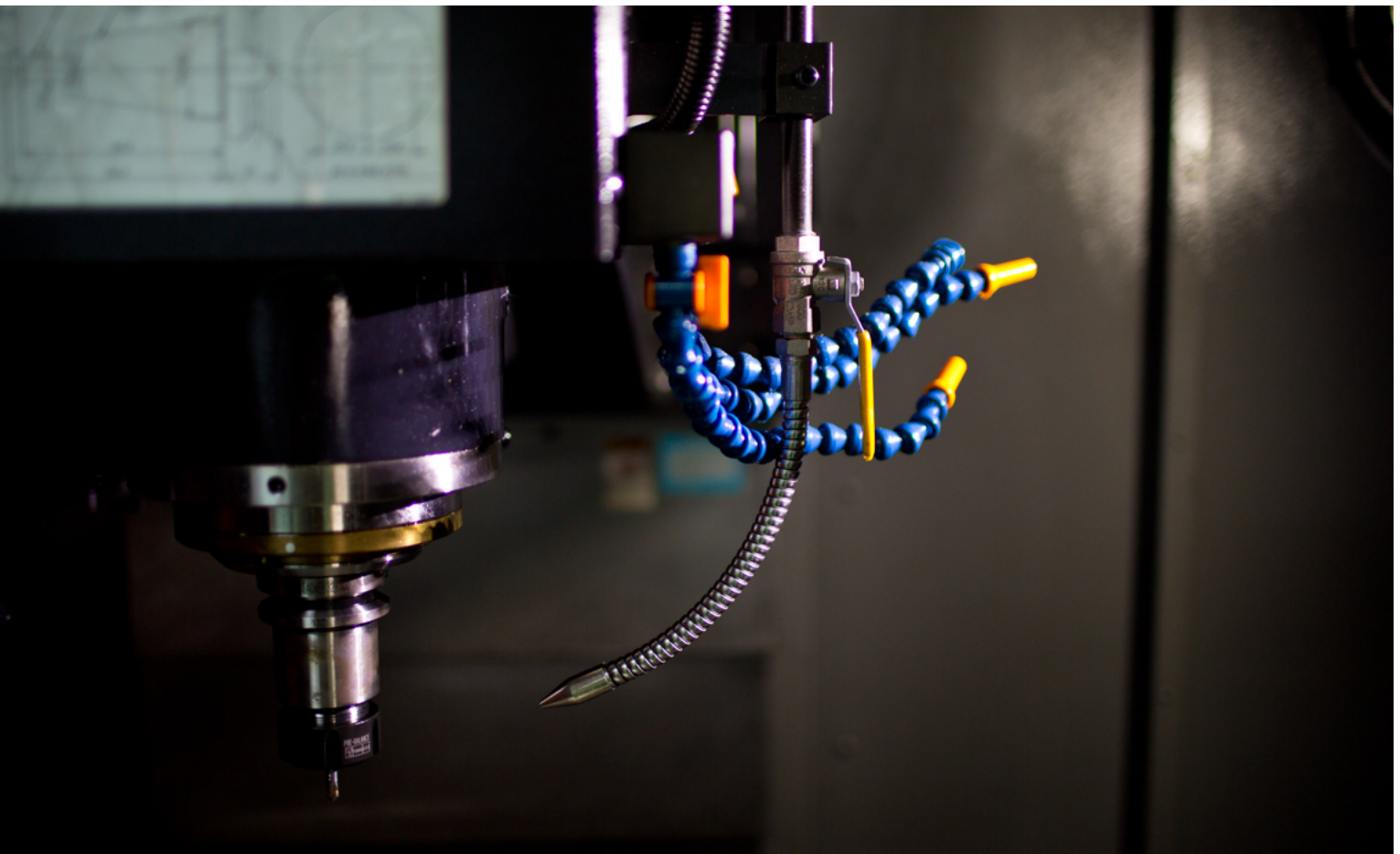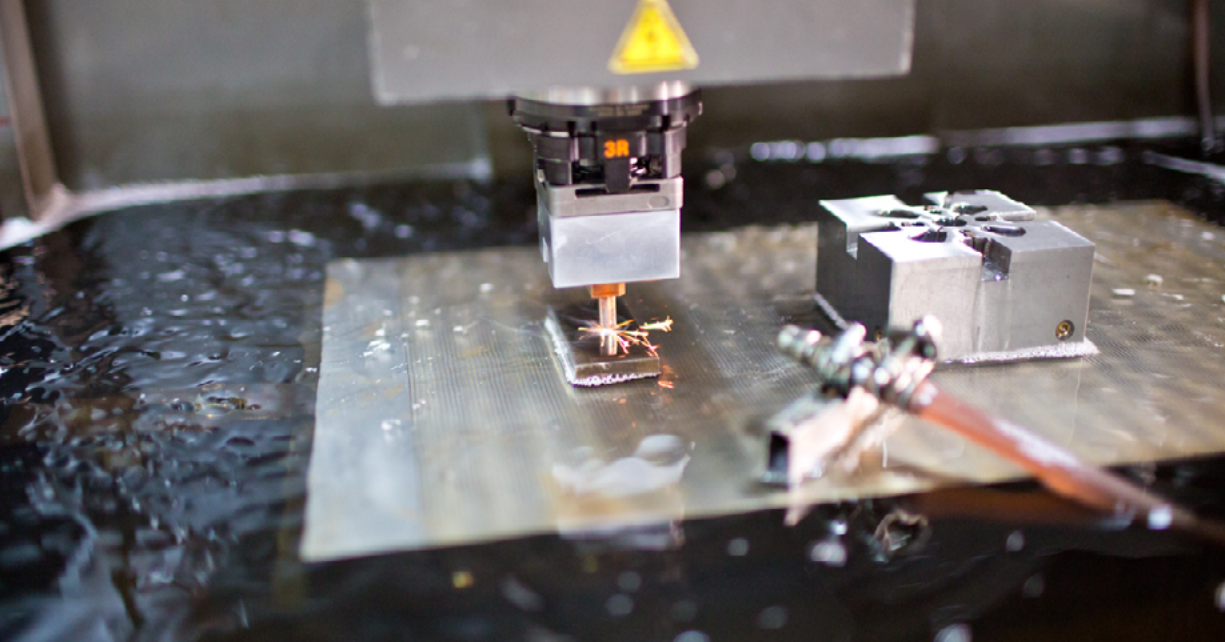Here are four reasons why you should work with a CM that makes their own tools:

Speed

Building tools is a multi-stage process. If you have ever gone through the process you know the inevitable delays cost time. Cut – inspect – ship – inspect – suggest minor change – ship – cut – inspect – approve (Repeat, usually more than once). Doing this in-house removes the shipping delays, allows minor changes to be implemented in almost real time and cuts the time to completion in half.

Control

Why not put the control of the tooling into the designers and ultimate manufacturer in the first place? After all, they are the ones who will approve the tooling AND make your product. Control also eliminates wasted time by ensuring the tool is made to spec — the first time — and works properly.

Close up of a tooling machine in East West's own tooling factory.

Machining a part in Vietnam.

Protection

Every tool has is designed to meet a specific tool life. What guarantee do you have should a tool fail before the number of shots is reached? If it took the tool maker 12 weeks to make your first tool, can you afford a 12-week delay in your supply chain?

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Communication

Working with an offshore tooling company can save your company an enormous amount of tooling dollars. However, communicating from 12,000 miles away offers its own set of cultural, language and time zone challenges. Our tool shop is western-managed and housed inside our wholly-owned, three-building, Vietnamese operation. You'll receive all the benefits of offshore tooling while working with a company based in the Eastern Time Zone.

Can your tooling company and Contract Manufacturer offer you that?