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## Job Description

**Job Title:** Toolmaker  
**Department:** Tool Room  
**Location:** Gweedore Business Park, Derrybeg, Co. Donegal  
**Reports To:** Tool Room Manager  
**Employment Type:** Full-Time, Permanent

### Role Overview

This is a hands-on, bench-based role for a time-served, apprenticeship-trained toolmaker with a solid grounding in press tool manufacture and new tool builds. The Toolmaker will be central to the assembly, development and buy-off of stamping tools, working methodically through trials and correction loops to deliver tools that perform consistently in production.

The right candidate brings genuine trade depth — earned through a full apprenticeship and sustained hands-on experience — combined with the problem-solving ability and self-reliance to work through build and trial challenges without close supervision. They will be CAD aware, comfortable reading and interpreting engineering drawings, and capable of interrogating dimensional results to identify and implement the correct improvement route.

### Key Responsibilities

#### *Assembly & Fitting*

- Assemble and fit press tools and stamping dies to drawing and specification, including progressive, compound, transfer and stage tooling as required
- Build and fit welding assembly jigs in support of fabricated component production
- Carry out precise fitting operations to achieve correct clearances, alignments and functional performance across all tool elements
- Manufacture or modify tool components using conventional machine tools as required during the build and correction process

#### *Trials, Spotting, Development & Buy-Off*

- Conduct tool trials on press, carrying out spotting, tuning and adjustment to establish correct metal flow, part geometry and surface condition
- Work through development loops systematically, identifying issues and implementing corrections efficiently to minimise trial time and press downtime

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- Support and lead tool buy-off activities, ensuring all dimensional, surface and functional requirements are met prior to production release
  - Attend to online tooling issues during production as required, diagnosing and resolving problems at the press with minimum disruption to output

#### *Dimensional Analysis & Improvement*

- Interrogate dimensional inspection results — from manual measurement or CMM reports — and identify the correct improvement route as it applies to the tool
- Translate dimensional findings into practical tooling corrections, carrying out or directing the necessary modifications
- Feed back lessons learned from trials and development into the tool build process to improve first-time performance on future tools

#### *General Tool Room*

- Maintain tools in good working order, carrying out preventive maintenance and component replacement as required
- Keep accurate records of tool status, trial outcomes, corrections made and spare parts used
- Support the wider tool room team and contribute to a safe, organised and productive working environment
- Adhere to all health and safety requirements and company quality standards at all times

### **Person Specification**

#### *Essential*

- Time-served, apprenticeship-trained toolmaker with a recognised trade qualification — journeyman certificate, Red Seal, City & Guilds, NITF Diploma or equivalent national trade certification
- Minimum 5 years' post-qualification hands-on experience in press tool manufacture and development
- Strong, demonstrable understanding of the complete tool and die making process — from build through trial, development and buy-off
- Proven experience in tool assembly, fitting, spotting and tryout on stamping dies
- Experience building and working with welding assembly jigs
- CAD awareness — able to read and work from 2D drawings and 3D CAD data confidently
- Ability to interpret dimensional inspection results and identify practical tooling corrections
- Strong problem-solving ability with a methodical, hands-on approach
- Able to work independently and on own initiative, managing workload and priorities without close supervision

### *Desirable*

- Experience across multiple tool types — progressive, transfer, compound, stage and skin panel dies
- Familiarity with GD&T and tolerance interpretation in a toolmaking context
- Welding capability (MIG, TIG or equivalent) in support of jig and fixture work
- Exposure to automotive or industrial press shop environments
- Basic CNC machining capability in support of tool component manufacture

### *Key Competencies*

- Trade Depth — a genuine, fully-served toolmaker with bench skills earned through apprenticeship and sustained practical experience
- Systematic Approach — works through trials and development methodically, keeping clear track of what has been tried and what has been learned
- Problem Solving — identifies root cause at the tool and implements practical corrections, on the press or at the bench
- Attention to Detail — rigorous about dimensional accuracy, clearances and surface quality at every stage of build and development
- Initiative — self-directed; picks up a job, drives it forward and sees it through without needing to be managed step by step
- Communication — clearly reports trial outcomes, dimensional findings and correction status to the tool room and engineering teams