





INJECTION MOULDING, PLASTICS & RUBBER



ABOUT THIS SECTOR

Manufacturers in the plastics and rubber industry, perform considerable amounts of research and development attempting to formulate new polymer compounds, as well as expanding technological means for processing and forming plastic and rubber materials into desired shapes and configurations.

Companies involved in plastic injection moulding, produce parts and products utilised in virtually every industry, including automotive, household products, sporting goods, commercial and industrial machinery, medical equipment, packaging and more. Companies in this industry expend significant effort creating tooling and cost-effective production processes, aimed at producing quality components for their customers. Research and development performed by companies rely on the principles of materials science, mechanical and electrical engineering, and computer science.

The strength of UK manufacturing is supported by extensive Research and Development (R&D) and investment in capital infrastructure. The movement towards more automation, digitisation and new materials, creates significant opportunities for tax reliefs and incentives for the taxpayer in this sector.

POTENTIAL R&D CLAIMS

Many companies are conducting qualifying R&D activities for R&D tax relief purposes in this sector on a daily basis, without even realising it. What may seem as typical day-to-day challenges in the office and field may qualify.

This may include developing new products, processes or services or duplicating existing products and processes in an appreciably improved way. The development does not have to be blue sky innovation, however, it is necessary for the company to

demonstrate some kind of technical uncertainty in the work being undertaken.





Typical qualifying activities within this sector include but are not limited to;

- Developing an enhanced plasticextrusion process for blending virgin and re-cycled plastic material for use in an injection-moulding process.
- Developing and evaluating the performance characteristics of a new high-durometer rubber compound for use in the manufacture of an automotive engine part.
- Developing and testing a biodegradable plastic compound for use in packaging a seafood product.
- Design and development of a single-cavity mould set.
- Developing a repeatability injection moulding process that satisfactorily meets a specific cycle time requirement.

POTENTIAL PATENT BOX CLAIMS

Companies that hold patents could qualify for a reduced corporation tax rate of effectively 10% on profits derived from those patents. Any company in this sector that does not hold a patent should be reviewing its technological developments to consider its eligibility to apply for a patent and benefit from the significantly reduced 10% tax rate.

The technical hurdle to apply for a patent is not as high as you may think. Similar to R&D tax relief, what may seem as typical technology in the office or field, may be patentable and eligible for a 10% effective rate of tax.

Some examples of patents in this sector include but are not limited to;

- Injection moulding process patents including controlling an injection moulding machine.
- · Apparatus for producing footwear.
- Robotic extraction system for removing medical components from a multi-cavity mould.
- · Multi-cavity over-moulding process.

POTENTIAL CAPITAL ALLOWANCE CLAIMS

Capital allowances enable commercial property owners to obtain tax relief relating to capital expenditure embedded within their building.

Capital allowances on plant and machinery equipment will typically be claimed in the tax computation already.

However, many businesses in this sector are missing out on valuable capital allowances available not only commercial property owned for years, but also on the;

- Acquisition
- Construction
- · Refurbishment; or
- · Extension of commercial property.

Capital allowances are often extremely valuable in this sector. Typically, qualifying features include; fire alarms, security installations, mechanical ventilations, electrical systems, heating, lighting, air conditioning, cranes, specialist extracts, racking, roller shutter doors and specialist flooring.

The value of capital allowances in this industry is typically 20-40% of expenditure on new builds, increasing to 45-65% for high spec refurbishments.

Of course, the extent of the opportunity depends on the level of the specification.

DON'T LOSE OUT!

The main reason allowances are missed on the construction and fit out/ refurbishment of the building, is because of the lack of detail in the construction cost information provided by contractors. This information can consist of high level summaries of the works and it is difficult for non-specialists to break down and segregate these costs, resulting in lost allowances.

Often elements are missed in the capital allowances claims such as demolitions, alterations and finishes. It is also possible to claim the professional fees associated with plant and machinery that we are claiming capital allowances on.

YES! THERE'S MORE!

In addition to this, there is a little known tax relief called Research and Development Allowances (RDA's). If it can be identified that the purpose of the expenditure on plant and machinery, buildings and IT equipment was for the purpose of Research and Development, 100% uncapped first year capital allowances can be claimed on this expenditure. Another very valuable opportunity!













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PLASTICS & RUBBER





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