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Injection Molding Tool Transfer Resources Guide

At one time or another, it's an issue every OEM mold owner will face. Whether you're dealing with custom injection molded part quality issues, time delays, cost overruns, supply chain, or capacity challenges with your existing supplier, the fact remains that many OEM mold owners tend to avoid the decision to transfer their molds to another supplier. Delaying the decision can get expensive, but so can making the wrong move. The process can be pretty daunting, and the primary concern, "Will making the move solve my problems?" still looms large until complete parts production runs smoothly.

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Take The Stress Out of Your Next Mold Tool Transfer

Being fully educated about the entire mold transfer process is the first step toward success. In many cases, it becomes essential to have a supplier that does more than shoot-and-ship injection molded parts; and the solution requires a full-service custom injection molding manufacturer with a highly experienced engineering team that deals with the development, design, quality assurance, and production challenges on a daily basis.

That's why Ferriot has created this Mold Tool Transfer Resources Guide. First, we begin by helping decide whether doing a mold transfer is the right idea. We then define the critical considerations when arranging for a mold tool transfer, including:

- Establishing key lines of communication
- Providing complete documentation and specifications
- Reviewing all known problems
- Defining cosmetic standards
- Preparing a production and inspection plan
- Creating an inventory buffer

In this guide, you will learn:

- The various reasons to consider a mold tool transfer and when not to do so.
- What documents and materials to prepare for your new supplier.
- The headaches you can avoid when arranging a tool transfer.
- Ferriot's value-added services for custom injection molded parts.
- Explore additional resources that will help make your mold tool transfer a success.

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Is it Time to Break Up with Your Custom Injection Molder?

Consider this scenario: Despite your best efforts, your custom injection molder continues to miss critical deadlines or is producing and assembling your project at an unacceptable error rate. **Bottom line:** It costs you much more than you had budgeted and has become a problem that needs to be fixed.

What are your options? Can you afford to switch to a new manufacturing partner?

Moving On Isn't So Hard

Many companies choose a supplier to provide custom injection molding services, finished assembly, decorative assembly from a third party. This approach can be a great production solution, especially if the actual operational delivery of your product isn't your company's forte.

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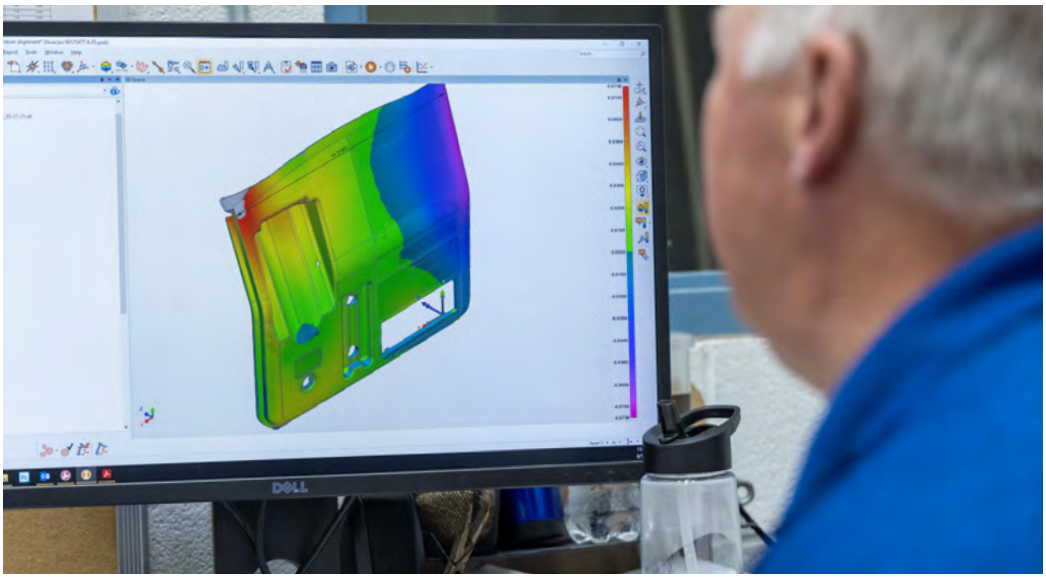
ShopTALK: Mold Transfer Considerations Everyone Should Know



Making the decision to move injection molds from one supplier to another can be a daunting task, not for the faint of heart. The saying "the devil is in the details" is very apropos to the mold tool transferring process. If you don't cover all the necessary details, you may be jumping from the frying pan into the fire. At Ferriot, we've identified seven key points you should consider in advance before making a tool transfer, including everything from inventory to cosmetic standards. It takes communication, transparency, precision, and above all, experience. We hope these recommendations help you with a successful transition.

In this ShopTALK discussion, Jerry Graf, Ferriot's Manager of Engineering, and Amy Mathia, an Engineering Project Manager, share their knowledge on the various reasons mold owners should and should not consider transferring their molds to another supplier and why its important to carefully evaluate their needs before making a move.

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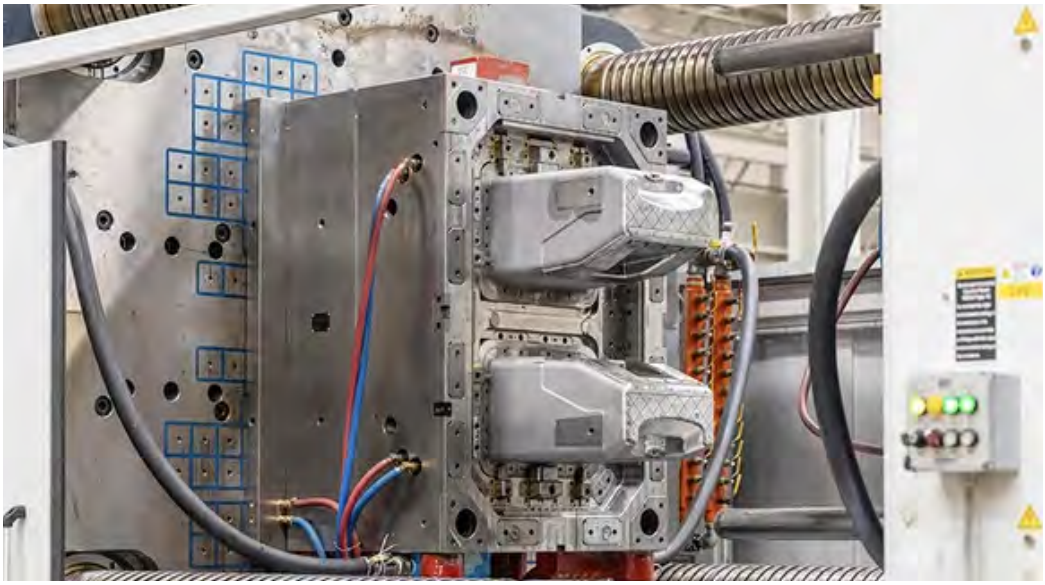
Headaches To Avoid When Transferring a Mold To a New Injection Molder



Missing deadlines, cost overruns, and quality issues are three primary reasons for moving to a new supplier by transferring your mold tools. However, before making such a significant leap of faith, you must be careful not to jump from the frying pan into the fire. As a first step, take time to understand the "*7 Key Points to Consider When Transferring Injection Molds from Suppliers.*"

While it seems common sense that the most critical key to success is maintaining complete transparency throughout the transfer process, it is surprising how often that does not happen. Understandably, to accomplish that level of transparency, open and honest communications must exist between the mold owner and the potential new supplier. The harsh reality is that, sometimes, the mold owner can be the source of their headaches through miscommunications and "errors of omission" (intentional or unintentional).

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Are You Ready for Your Mold Transfer?

Beginning with the RFQ phase of the tool transfer inquiry, sharing full transparency throughout the transfer process for efficient and effective tool transfer with your new custom injection molding supplier is essential. Therefore, it is necessary to clearly define the project scope and the responsibilities and expectations of everyone involved.

Before moving forward with production, any tool refurbishments should be quoted and submitted for approval. The required validation processes and protocols should be defined and agreed upon prior to execution by the supplier.

As an integral part in moving the process forward, you'll need to provide the necessary documentation, specifications, and materials to the chosen supplier.

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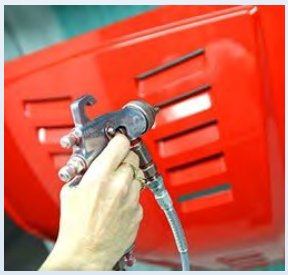
Mold Tool Transfer Success Checklist

GET THE CHECKLIST ▶

Value-Added Services for Injection Mold Tool Transfer

At Ferriot, we finish what we start. Reduce your cost and save time by taking advantage of our secondary services. Have us paint, insert, assemble and package your products and streamline your production.

Finished Painting



Add the perfect final touch to your Mold Transfer parts by having them painted to match your brand.

- Primer, Color to Finished Texture
- High-Volume Low-Pressure (HVLP) Application
- Multiple Paint Booths
- 24-hour Operations

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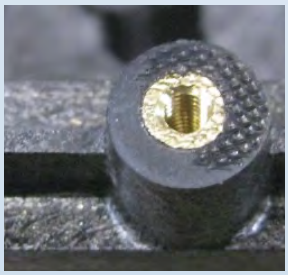
Ultrasonic Insertion



Ensure strong final enclosures using ultrasonic insertion in the Mold Transfer part's assembly.

- Strong, Reusable, Permanent Threads
- Allow for easy assembly
- Multiple installation methods
- Post-molding operation

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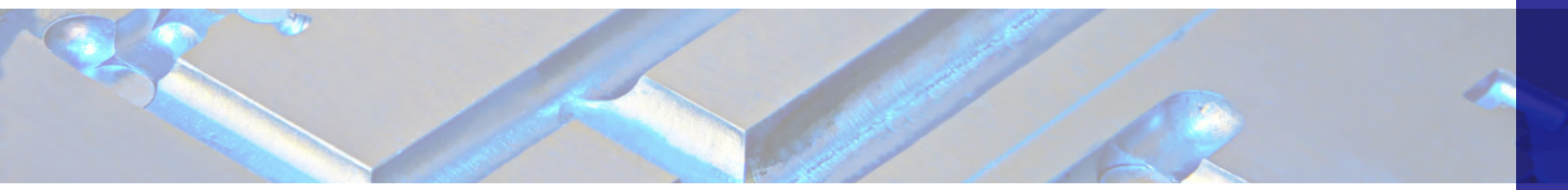
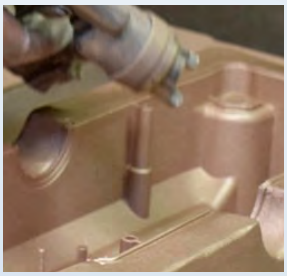


Value-Added Services for Injection Mold Tool Transfer
(continued)

EMI/RFI Shielding



Protect sensitive electronics housed in your Mold Transfer molded enclosures from electromagnetic interference.

- Electromagnetic Shielding
- Radio Frequency Shielding
- Medical Equipment
- Prevent electronic malfunction and interference

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Assembly & Kitting

Complete your molded parts project with final assembly and kitting.

- Around the clock operation
- Controlled manufacturing process
- Quality auditors validate product quality during production

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Conclusion

Designing Injection Molded Parts

GET THE HANDBOOK ▶

Seven Ways to Cut Costs on Injection Molded Parts

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Injection Molding Resin Selection Workbook

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How to Make Smart Injection Molding Resin Selections

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