

NOTEWORTHY

Turning product ideas into reality



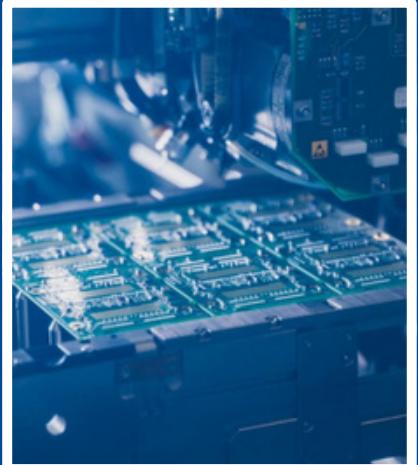
NEW LEADERSHIP AT BASILDON – MEET DAN WATLEY!

We're excited to welcome Dan Watley as Managing Director of **NOTE** Basildon. With a passion for engineering and a wealth of industry experience, Dan is ready to drive innovation and growth at the site. But there's more to Dan than meets the eye...

Read more on page 3: Five Things You Didn't Know About Dan Watley

BOOSTING PRECISION AT NOTE WINDSOR

We're excited to announce that **NOTE** Windsor will be installing a new vapour phase soldering machine in late Spring. This advanced technology ensures exceptional solder joint quality, even for complex assemblies and high-density boards. It enhances reliability and consistency across our builds. For customers, this means greater performance, reduced risk of defects, and superior results for demanding applications – another step forward in our commitment to world-class EMS.



EXCITING PROGRESS AT NOTE WOLVERHAMPTON

Work on our Wolverhampton facility (formerly Kasdon) is moving forward at pace! The groundwork and main structure are now complete, and the building shell is taking shape. Next up, the team will begin laying the concrete floor – a key milestone that brings us closer to creating a modern, high-performance space for our customers.

The extension will add 7,000 sq. ft, increasing the overall footprint to 25,000 sq. ft – giving us even more capacity to deliver advanced EMS solutions. Stay tuned for more updates as we transform plans into reality!



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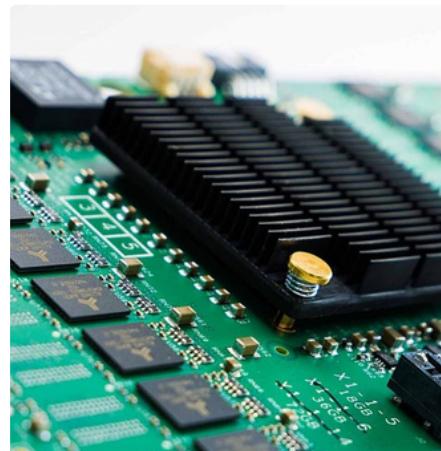


info.note@note-ems.co.uk

WHAT'S SHAPING UK EMS IN 2026?

From right-shoring strategies to sustainability and compliance, the electronics manufacturing landscape is evolving fast. Risks remain in sourcing, OEMs demand earlier engagement, and partnerships are more critical than ever.

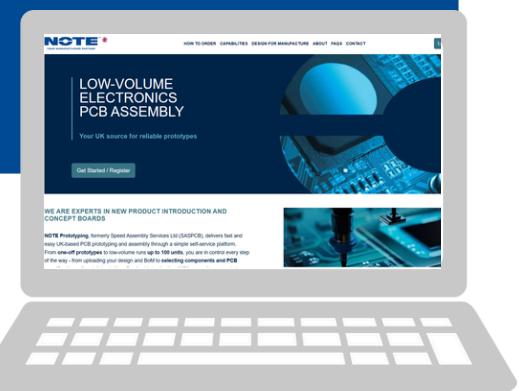
Want to know the key trends driving change? Read more [\[here\]](#).



HAVE YOU EXPLORED OUR PROTOTYPING PORTAL?

Our dedicated NOTE Prototyping portal is designed to accelerate product development - offering rapid turnaround, technical precision, and close collaboration. Almost exclusively available to customers, it's where ideas move quickly from concept to reality in six easy steps.

Have you had a chance to visit yet? [\[Click here to explore\]](#)



MEET US AT SOUTHERN MANUFACTURING 2026

We're gearing up for one of the UK's biggest engineering and electronics events! Join **NOTE** on Stand **D70** at Southern Manufacturing & Electronics, Farnborough, from 3 - 5 February 2026.

Discover how our end-to-end EMS solutions – from design support and prototyping to full-scale production – can help accelerate your projects.

Stop by and say hello – we'd love to talk!



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FIVE THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT DAN WATLEY MANAGING DIRECTOR, NOTE BASILDON

1 The Tale of Two Watleys:

Dan has a twin – but that's where the similarities end. While Dan chose a career filled with engineering and technology, his brother ventured into the arts and now runs the galleries across the city of Birmingham. One handles precise components and quality systems; the other handles priceless paintings and creative chaos. Balance restored.

2 A Musical Past (and Present... ish):

Music was once Dan's main hobby, with the cello being his instrument of choice. After a two-decade break, he dusted off the bow in 2025 to perform in two charity concerts – proving muscle memory really is a thing. Meanwhile, his eldest has taken the baton, studying music performance at university and planning a career in the industry. The Watley musical legacy continues.

3 Runs For Fun (Especially Through Mud):

Dan loves running – the muddier, the better. Trail running in the winter months is his happy place. Rain, cold, ankle-deep sludge... pure joy. If it involves clean pavements, he's less enthusiastic.

4 Born to Ski:

Strapping on skis at the age of four, Dan has been carving down mountains ever since. He's looking forward to getting the whole family back on the slopes soon – though opinions may vary on who's actually the fastest.

5 A Very Lively Household:

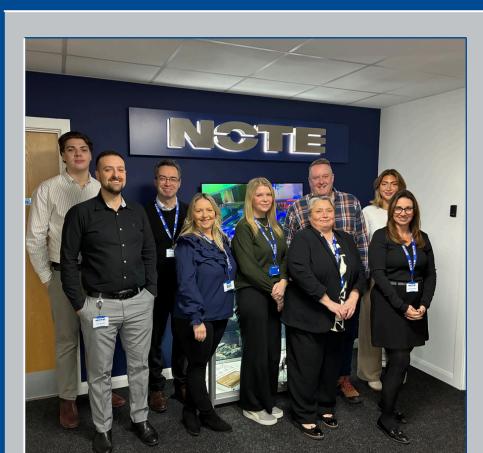
The Watley home is shared with two cats and one exuberant Labrador retriever, who firmly believes every visitor has arrived just to see her. Spoiler: she's usually right!

FRESH ENERGY MEETS PROVEN EXPERTISE AT BASILDON

There's plenty happening at **NOTE** Basildon, and the commercial team is right at the centre of it. With new colleagues joining a highly experienced core group, the department is building real momentum for the year ahead. We're pleased to welcome Grant Fryatt as Commercial Manager, now leading both the account management and buying functions as the site continues to evolve.

The buying team has also expanded with the arrival of Natalie Walters, our new Senior Buyer. She joins a strong and well-established group – Amy, Katie and Sharon – who together bring an impressive 21 years of procurement experience. Their knowledge remains a key part of Basildon's capability, supported by Sophie, who continues to guide and develop the team. On the customer side, Lee-Anne Corrigan and Chloe Reeves have joined as Account Managers, adding fresh energy and expertise to day-to-day account management as customer activity grows.

A great mix of new talent and trusted experience – all working together to support Basildon's continued growth.



The commercial team



THE BACK PAGE



DID YOU KNOW?

- The world's smallest PCB is less than the size of a grain of rice and is used in medical implants. (*Tiny tech making a big impact.*)
- Southern Manufacturing started in 1998 and has grown into one of the UK's biggest engineering and electronics events. (*This year, NOTE is on Stand D70 - don't miss us!*)
- The first email was sent in 1971 - and now over 300 billion emails are sent every day. (*No wonder your inbox feels endless in January!*)
- Lead times for semiconductors hit record highs in recent years, with some exceeding 52 weeks. (*Planning ahead isn't optional anymore.*)



WHY DOES JANUARY ALWAYS FEEL LIKE THE WORST MONTH?

Maybe it's the post-holiday slump, the short days, or the sudden realisation that your inbox has been plotting against you since December! January seems to stretch time - five weeks disguised as four - and even the most motivated among us start dreaming of duvet days.

But here's the twist: it's also the perfect month to hit reset, recharge, and remind yourself that brighter days (literally!) are just around the corner.

Need a boost? Get out, shake off the January blues, and come visit us on Stand D70 at Southern Manufacturing – we promise it's warmer than your inbox!



A FESTIVE FINALE

The season of joy was in full swing as our Windsor team gathered at the stunning Sir Christopher Wren Hotel to celebrate Christmas in style. Twinkling lights,

laughter echoing through the room, and a feast fit for the occasion made it a night to remember. It was the perfect way to wrap up a year of achievements and raise a glass to an exciting 2026 ahead!



THINK YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS? LET'S FIND OUT!

1. **What's the one thing every great EMS partner should deliver - besides quality?** (*Hint: It's not just about speed... think lifecycle value.*)
2. **If a PCB could talk, what would it say about the importance of traceability?** (*Would it whisper "ISO 9001" or shout "data-driven manufacturing"?*)
3. **Which is harder: Designing for manufacturability or predicting component shortages?** (*And how does NOTE help you win at both?*)
4. **What's the most overlooked stage in an electronics product lifecycle - and why does NOTE obsess over it?** (*Spoiler: It's not the prototype.*)

ANSWERS

On the left

