

GKN operates at the highest levels of the global automotive supply chain providing a range of geared and mechanical systems and devices – some with electronic control technologies – to the world’s manufacturers of cars, light trucks and construction and agricultural vehicles.

GKN’s position as one of the world’s leading Tier One suppliers is supported by more than 50 engineering and manufacturing facilities in the Americas, Europe, Africa, India, Asia Pacific and Japan.

GKN is the world leader in constant velocity jointed (CVJ) sashesafts – devices which transmit torque to a vehicle’s wheels and which were fitted to approximately 50 million of all the light vehicles produced in the world in 2004. GKN has around 42% of the global market for CVJ sashesafts. During 2004 GKN launched its third generation CVJs which can deliver more torque in a smaller, lighter package – a critical benefit to vehicle designers.

In recent years GKN has developed an electronics expertise. This has been fused with its long-standing engineering capability to develop a new generation of torque management devices which are becoming increasingly important as a means to improve vehicle traction, stability and comfort.

GKN is also the world’s No. 1 supplier of powder metal parts and the No. 1 producer of metal powder in the US. GKN’s capability in the technology and production of powder metal parts and their raw material is unique among major companies.

GKN is a major European and North American supplier of components and systems for construction and agricultural vehicles and equipment and is also a leading supplier of structural presswork and cylinder liners for automotive, industrial and marine applications. Emitec, a 50:50 joint venture with Siemens of Germany, is the world leader in metallic substrates for catalytic converters.

Virtually all of the latest Western military aircraft flying today and many of the world's most successful airliners embody technology from GKN either in their airframes or engines or both.

And in every important US and European military and civil aircraft currently under development, GKN technology is making an important contribution to the achievement of their ultimate performance goals.

GKN Aerospace operates from engineering and production facilities in the Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific. Its mission is to supply engineering design services and high-performance composite and metallic alloy structures as well as a range of specialist products such as engine nacelles and canopy systems to prime contractors such as Airbus, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Sikorsky and the jet engine manufacturers General Electric, Rolls-Royce and Pratt & Whitney.

GKN supplies structures, propulsion systems and special products to a wide range of military aircraft such as the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, F/A-22 Raptor, F-15K Eagle, C-17 Globemaster 111, C-130J Hercules, Eurofighter Typhoon and the Blackhawk, Merlin and Lynx helicopters. Within the civil sector it is also a supplier on all Airbus programmes including the A318/319/320 single aisle family, the A330 and A340 500/600 long-range aircraft and new A380 'Super Jumbo'.

GKN is also involved in developing and producing structures and systems for the Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, Airbus A400M military airlifter and the Boeing 787 jetliner, all of which are currently under development and due to enter service by the end of the decade.