When the long established manufacturing and distribution company - Socket and Allied Screws Limited - were looking to access finance for business growth, they turned to Birmingham City Council’s Business Growth Programme.

Based in the heart of the West Midlands since the 1980’s, Socket and Allied Screws Limited is a producer of bespoke fastener components. Following approval of their Business Growth Programme grant, the company has invested over £30k on the implementation of a new ERP (Enterprise
Resource Planning) system in order to streamline processes, and has been awarded accreditation for a range of new quality standards including ISO9001-2015.

Managing Director, Kevin Bradley said:

“With the downturn in the oil and gas industry, we have made a conscious decision to move into other industry sectors and broaden the range of products we produce. For some of the new industrial sectors we are targeting it is imperative to demonstrate that we run our business to the strictest quality standards such as ISO9001-2015, ISO14001 and OHSAS18001 (soon to be replaced by ISO45001) Given our new quality accreditations and product traceability we can apply to join the F4N (Fit for Nuclear) programme, which is part of the Government’s initiative to involve SMEs in the Nuclear supply chain.”

Following a quick and streamlined application process, Socket and Allied Screws were awarded grant funding of over £17k from the Business Development Programme, which is one of the 4 strands of support offered under the Business Growth Programme.

“Birmingham City Council has been extremely helpful, enabling a successful outcome to our Business Development grant application, which has supported the purchase of a new ERP system, gaining accreditation for new quality standards and the creation of 2 new jobs”.

For more information about the Business Growth Programme, visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/bgp

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The Business Growth Programme has received or is receiving up to £16.3m of funding from the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department of Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for European Regional Development Fund. Established by the European Union, the European Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit https://gov.uk/european-growth-fund.