

SUPPORT IN THE SCOPE OF THE INCENTIVE SYSTEM

Entity: Sá Couto & Monteiro, SA

Project Designation: SISMA - innovation, expansion and sustainability in precision machining

Objective: Strengthening competition for small and medium-sized enterprise

Code of the project: POCI-02-0853-FEDER-179950

Region of Intervention: NORTE - Área Metropolitana do Porto

Location: Silva Escura, Maia – Portugal

Start Date: 01/09/2021

Completion Date: 30/06/2023

Total Cost:	5.281.065,06 Euros
Financial Support from the European Union:	1.514.689,61 Euros
National Public Financial Support:	0 Eur

Project

Overview:

Sá Couto & Monteiro is a company specialized in the industrialization and manufacture of parts and components by high precision CNC machining, operating under the trademarks SISMA, SISMA Medical and BMTECH. The company has currently 4 product areas: a Mechanical Area, related to components for a wide variety of industrial areas: home appliances, food industry, automotive, electrical, healthcare; an Optical Area, related to parts and components to assemble to optical devices; a Medical Area, related to the provision of machining services for the manufacture of medical devices (dental and orthopedic); and a Aeronautical Area, dedicated to high precision machining of aerospace components. This latter is an emerging area as is the emerging of orthopedic devices for veterinary (which we include, due to the technical proximity and business logic in the medical area).

The project aims to expand the company's activity, with significant reinforcements in product innovation and production efficiency. The new equipment will reinforce in particular the capacity for precision machining in devices and components in the medical and veterinary areas and in the aeronautical area.

The current facility, with an overall area of 5.293 m² and a manufacturing area of 4.790 m² resulted from an investment completed in 2018. Since then, despite disturbances and uncertainties arising from the outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic, the company has maintained a good level of activity in the Mechanical and Optical areas. The company has received increasing requests for the manufacture of new components for medical devices and, in particular, for customized production. This dynamic in the Medical area allow us to foresee a strong expansion of the activity in the upcoming years which requires an expansion of specific manufacturing equipment.

Another emergent area is the Aeronautics, in which the company has already responded occasionally to orders for the manufacture of high precision mechanical components with noble materials and requiring strict quality control. The company foresees, with the control of COVID-19 pandemic, a significant take back in this area while also intends to enlarge the area and product lines for spatial equipment.

Therefore, it has become unavoidable to increase the productive capacity of the establishment and therefore, the project, already in course, provides for the construction of a new pavilion and the acquisition of additional equipment.

In this context, the objectives of the investment are to:

- Increase the installed productive capacity which encompasses the construction of a new industrial pavilion, immediately adjacent to the existing one and the acquisition of additional equipment.
- Increase production in segments of strong added value.
- Improvements in efficiency, with equipment with more advanced features, integration of CNC equipment in digital infrastructure (industry 4.0) and reorganization of the production layout.
- Improvements in sustainability, with reinforcement of energy self-sufficiency and adoption of industrial water self-sufficiency solutions in the new building.