



Our philosophy is that when the work comes, we'll be ready.



Vijai Lakshmikanthan, Vice President, Starlim North America



GROWING GLOBAL



Vijai Lakshmikanthan getting updates from Starlim employees.

When Starlim began its search for its North American headquarters, it found that London had everything needed to develop the foundation for the silicone-molding factory.

The City had the land to build a plant with the opportunity for expansion, the business infrastructure to support a new business and the ability to train the next generation of technicians in a specialized craft. Part of the factory's early success came from the unique business network in London.





Starlim produces hundreds of thousands of precisely designed and manufactured silicone parts for health care devices throughout the world.

"We formed great networks with other high-tech companies in the area who were able to help us secure a great piece of land that was much less expensive than what you would see in Europe. When we wanted to expand, other plants invited us in to see what they were doing," says Vijai Lakshmikanthan, Vice President for Starlim North America.

A focus on silicone injection molding – a niche international industry – has helped Starlim North America transition from producing automotive parts to becoming the largest company of its kind in Canada serving the health care industry at home and abroad. An extension of Starlim Sterner in Austria, the business is poised to expand, taking advantage of the unique business environment in the city.

Starlim's current facility will grow from two bays housing 52 machines to five bays that can house up to 75 machines, plus a fully functional clean room with eight machines. The entire facility will have a capacity of approximately 135 machines. Their machines produce a variety of parts from pistons to peripheral seals. Starlim has been able to accommodate the demand of clients who have taken their products – like silicone O-rings for dialysis machines – to markets overseas.

"London gives us the ability to serve our customers, regardless of where they are in the world, which has been integral to our growth. Our philosophy is that when the work comes, we'll be ready," says Lakshmikanthan.

Despite the massive growth, Starlim has maintained its high level of quality and standards. "We're producing parts for FDA-certified medical devices. We have a defect rate of less than one parts per million, and we're able to do that over three billion parts per year at the moment," says Lakshmikanthan.

London also offers Starlim the ability to train employees with a rare skill. With a long history of apprenticeships through its global headquarters in Austria, bringing that value to North America is vital to its continued growth in the health sector.

"We've tapped into the educational institutions in the city, like Western University and Fanshawe College, to put employees through training for mold making or tooling and supplementing training with apprenticeships in Austria. Those employees are now our leaders," says Lakshmikanthan.

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Each silicone part created requires a team to ensure that all equipment is capable of meeting precise specifications.