



THOMAS FORMAN & SONS LTD

1848 – 2000

DIVISIONS OF THE COMPANY AND PRODUCTS

The Security Print Division

Security work had been produced by Forman's for many years. During the 1960's the Cheque department was established, the work was mainly for Westminster Bank. By the late 1960's cheques were being produced by small offset litho machines and the department had moved into the 'new' factory at the back of the main factory on Hucknall Road.

In March 1970 the Company decided to expand in this market. It was already printing cheques and credit books for National Westminster Bank (NatWest), cheques for Ulster and Barclays Bank and credit books for GUS. Cheques were later printed for The Royal Bank of Scotland and personalized credit books for Avon Cosmetics. The Trustee Savings Bank (TSB) had 72 independent savings banks throughout the UK and Forman's produced supplies for several of them.

In the early 1980's security had to be increased and new methods of cheque production were introduced involving computers and laser printers which required air conditioned units. Every day Forman's received, from NatWest Bank, a magnetic tape containing the details of the cheque books required. The finished cheque books were despatched the same day, directly to customers. This required a capital investment of £1.5 million. TSB then placed a contract with Forman's which required more new technology and a further air conditioned unit.

In 1986 a new contract was established to print personalised credit books for Barclays which was worth £2 million. Both these contracts required significant capital investment.

Midland Bank also became a customer of Forman's for personalised credit books. In addition to the work produced for the banks, Forman Security produced 'money off' vouchers, gift coupons and other security products.

The growth of Forman's in the security print market coupled with the large investment in the latest technology allowed the Security Print Division to make a significant contribution to the overall profitability of Company.

In 1989 the Security Print Division, 'BPCC Waterlow-Petty', as it was then named, was renamed 'Polestar Digital' and in September 2000 moved from Hucknall Road to Kodak at Annesley.

