



STRATEGIC GUIDE: SEAMLESS MOLD AND TOOL TRANSFERS

Navigating a mold transfer can feel like steering through uncharted waters — uncertainty, disruption and production delays lie just below the surface. But with the right partner, you don't have to face it alone.

Whether you're responding to shifting market forces, consolidating your supply chain or seeking better performance from your current mold, the stakes are high. A misstep can lead to costly downtime, compromised quality or a loss of customer trust.

A mold transfer isn't just a change in suppliers — it's an opportunity to do things better. This white paper outlines a proven protocol for successful mold transfers and explains why getting it right matters more than ever.

Why Companies Transfer Molds

Companies may decide to move their plastic injection molds to a new supplier for a variety of reasons:

- **Onshoring and tariff uncertainty:** Global trade tensions, unpredictable tariffs and rising offshore production costs are prompting many companies to bring manufacturing back to the United States. Transferring molds to a domestic supplier can help stabilize costs, reduce lead times and mitigate geopolitical risks.
- **Supplier performance issues:** Late deliveries, quality lapses or poor customer service can trigger the search for a more capable vendor.
- **Capacity or capability needs:** As product requirements evolve, the current supplier may no longer have the technology, equipment or expertise needed.

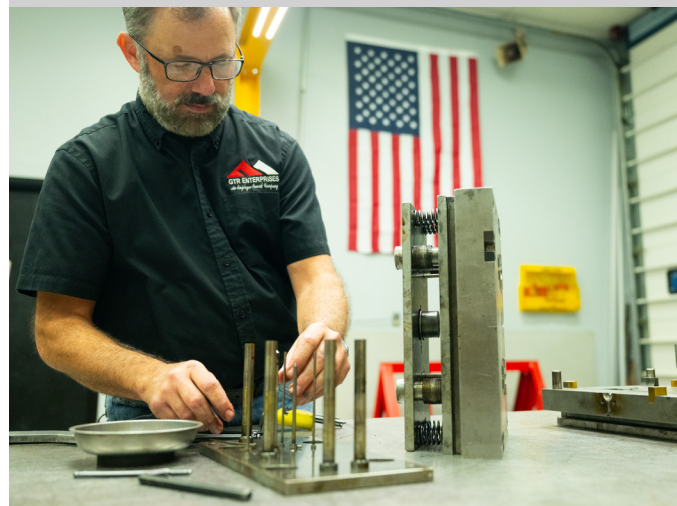
Molds Make the Shape. Tools Make It Happen.

In plastic manufacturing, a quality mold and tooling are essential to producing a quality part.

Start with a bad mold, get a bad part. The mold consists of the core and cavity details that form the required part geometry. The ejector system releases the part from the mold using ejector pins. Steel plates hold everything together.

When a company changes suppliers, the mold, gauges and fixtures are usually shipped to the new supplier.

The quality of the mold is what drives consistent, successful production.





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- **Corporate restructuring:** Mergers or acquisitions can introduce new facilities, inherited mold and supply chain redundancies.
- **Geographic or logistical optimization:** Moving production closer to distribution hubs or end markets can reduce shipping times and costs.
- **Mold salvage:** Plant closures or supplier business exits may require emergency transfers to maintain continuity.

Regardless of the motivation, the primary goal remains the same: minimize disruption and risk while maximizing efficiency and quality.

OEM Preparation: Setting the Stage for Success

Switching suppliers requires meticulous planning. It's best to begin with a clear transfer strategy. This includes:

1. Assemble a transfer team

Build a cross-functional team that includes members from purchasing, engineering, quality, operations and supply chain management. This group will define the scope, establish timelines and manage communication throughout the process.

2. Conduct an assessment

Before the molds are moved, it's essential to assess the current state of production at the outgoing supplier:

- Document all manufacturing and secondary operations.
- Review trimming, decorating, validation and packaging processes.

- Identify the molding machine size and setup requirements.
- Photograph and document the open mold cavities and tools for wear, damage or any on-the-fly modifications.
- Confirm mold ownership and asset details.

3. Collect and organize critical information

Providing comprehensive documentation to the new supplier accelerates onboarding and reduces guesswork. This may include:

- Part specifications, CAD files, photographs and technical documents
- Approved first-article inspection (FAI) reports
- Molding process sheets
- Assembly and testing fixtures
- Mold drawings and details
- Part samples, including both conforming and nonconforming examples
- Historical data on customer complaints
- Lessons learned from prior issues

4. Manage inventory and supply chain risks

Estimate how much additional inventory will be needed during the transfer, sampling and approval process. A three-month supply is often recommended, though this varies based on part complexity, material availability and mold condition.



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OUR MOLD TRANSFER PROTOCOL

A successful mold transfer involves more than just receiving a mold and tooling — it requires a disciplined, transparent process. Manar follows a detailed protocol that includes:

1. Kickoff and project review

Our team, including representatives from engineering, tooling, production and quality, holds a launch meeting to review part geometry, material requirements and customer expectations.

2. Mold receipt and evaluation

Upon receiving the mold, we:

- Log and photograph the mold
- Disassemble and clean all components
- Evaluate mold condition, steel type, finish and gate design
- Identify necessary repairs or compatibility issues
- Provide quotes for required modifications

3. Sampling and qualification

Once repairs or updates are complete, we:

- Conduct mold trials on our equipment
- Produce sample parts for FAI
- Submit FAI reports to the customer for approval
- Validate performance against original specifications

Throughout the process, customers are kept informed through regular updates and milestone reporting. Our goal is to ensure a smooth, efficient transition with no surprises.

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Why Choose Manar, Inc. for Mold Transfers?

Manar brings decades of experience in custom plastic injection molding solutions. With a dedicated mold transfer team, four state-of-the-art facilities and a commitment to customer collaboration, we deliver seamless transitions backed by rigorous quality control.

Our strengths include:

- A proven track record across medical, filtration, transportation, industrial and consumer markets
- Full-service capabilities, from design support to white room assembly
- In-house tooling expertise and mold maintenance
- Strong project management and responsive communication

When you trust Manar with your mold transfer, you're not just changing suppliers — you're gaining a strategic partner committed to your long-term success.

READY TO NAVIGATE WHAT'S NEXT?

If you're considering a mold transfer, don't go it alone. Manar, Inc. is your trusted guide, ready to illuminate the path forward with experience, precision and care. From initial planning to final production, we'll help you steer clear of costly disruptions and guide your mold transition to a smoother, more secure destination.

Let's chart the course together. Contact us today to speak with a mold expert or schedule a discovery session.



ILLUMINATING YOUR JOURNEY. A SAFER PATH.

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