Aerospace & the Innovation Landscape

Simon Masters, Lead Technologist – Aerospace, Innovate UK Glasgow University Aerospace Symposium 2015, 3rd November 2015

Innovate UK

We are an innovation nation

The UK is built on innovation. Its genius for invention and creativity has shaped the world.

From television to world wide web

From the discovery of penicillin to in-vitro fertilisation

From the jet engine to graphene

Today our global economic footprint is a testament to those who have innovated before but we cannot stand still!

Innovation doesn't just happen

Strategic innovation doesn't just happen. It happens as a consequence of coordinated collaboration between business, government and research.

This is where Innovate UK comes in.



Adding an estimated £7.5bn to the UK economy and creating an average of 7 iobs per **company** we have worked with



Why is our work important?

1. Higher-skilled jobs & higher productivity

Source NESTA: UK innovation Report 2014

Firms that persistently innovate have 13% higher productivity than non innovators and **9% higher** productivity than occasional innovators



2. A global race for *future prosperity*

Source: OECD METI report 2012

R&D investment as a percentage of the GDP

(Analysis estimates long-run productivity is maximised with investment levels between 2.3 – 2.6%)



3. Innovation is an investment for the future

Source: BIS Innovation Report 2014

Firms that persistently invest in **R&D** grow twice as fast as non innovators and have higher exports



How we work

Steering economic growth



5-point plan for future growth

- Accelerating UK economic growth, nurturing small, high-growth companies, helping them to become high-growth mid-sized companies with strong productivity and export success.
- **Building on innovation excellence throughout the UK,** investing locally in areas of strength.
- **Developing Catapults within a national innovation network**, to provide access to cutting edge technologies, encourage inward investment and enable technical advances in existing businesses.
- Working with the research community and across government to turn scientific excellence into economic impact, and improve efficiency.
- Evolving our funding models; exploring ways to help public funding go further.

Priority Areas in FY 14/15



Sits alongside: Catapults, Innovation Vouchers, Smart, KTP KTN, NCP's, EEN's, H2020

Innovate UK Aerospace



Innovate UK: working with the aerospace industry **£19 million** IN GRANTS

30% awarded to SMEs

OVER 100 PROJECT PARTNERS

25+ universities

OVER 80 INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Innovate UK Aerospace



Aerospace landscape



Current Activity – Aerospace



HITEA 3: Game-changing technologies for aerospace £10m CR&D + Feasibility Studies



ATI: Strategic Research and Technology Projects

Highly Innovative Technology Enablers in Aerospace



up to £10 million in collaborative research and development and feasibility studies

Highly Innovative Technology Enablers in Aerospace 3 Game-changing technologies for aerospace

Highly Innovative Technology Enablers in Aerospace

Key Objectives

•Promote global competitive advantage and economic benefit, primarily in the UK civil aerospace sector

•Development of solutions to key aerospace challenges

•Support broad participation across industry, academia and research organisations and across different industry sectors.





Competition Scope

new manufacturing solutions that enhance cost effectiveness and affordability and/or support increasing rates of production

improved competitiveness through novel or advanced materials and associated processing technologies

technologies that enable improvements to overall vehicle performance and efficiency

reduced cost of vehicle ownership through novel technologies or process solutions

new modelling and simulation techniques







Optical technology companies sense their opportunity

Optical sensing technology has the potential to bring really big innovations in aerospace closer to reality – such as the next generation of composite wings and all-electric aircraft.

"They made us and Smart Fibres work collaboratively. Normally, Airbus wouldn't speak to us. And without the funding, we wouldn't have been able to build a demonstrator."





Aero-engine manufacturer Rolls-Royce earns half of its civil aerospace revenue from servicing engines, often on long-term maintenance contracts offering total support.

"I'm very grateful for the support I've had from Innovate UK. It gets us involved in major R&D programmes where you can do a significant amount of work."



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The 7th European Aeronautics Days



L O N D O N 20-23 OCTOBER 2015

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We can't stop thinking about the future

Innovate UK

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