

Tech Park Times

Spring/Summer 2011

Welcome

Well here it is: the latest edition of Tech Park Times!

I am aware that it is a year since the last edition, but this doesn't mean that the partnership between Cranfield University and St Modwen hasn't been 'paddling away' on your behalf below the water line.

The past year has been one of great drama and socio-economic turmoil for us all and I hope that companies on the Park haven't struggled too much through the turbulent times and can see new opportunities on the horizon.

Reading on in this edition, you will see that plans are well advanced for what in reality is a re-launch of the Cranfield Technology Park brand and the communications that support it; both as communication tools for the benefit of tenants and as an outward facing tool for awareness raising of the Cranfield Technology Park distinctive offering for prospective new tenants.

It is likely therefore that this will be the last printed version of Tech Park Times. However, the online alternatives we have in mind are intended to be an improvement on what we have rolled out for the past decade or so: bringing Cranfield University Technology Park well and truly into the 21st Century as a thriving and growing community of knowledge based and technology led companies.



Ian Chapman
Corporate Relations and Communications

T: 01234 754961

E: i.chapman@cranfield.ac.uk

www.cranfield.ac.uk/business

AND THE REGION ● NEWS FROM OUR TENANTS ● THE UNIVERSITY ● AND THE REGION ●



Astrimar: an Innovation Habitat success story

Innovation Centre new tenant, Astrimar Ltd, is a perfect example of the Cranfield Innovation Habitat in action. Astrimar moved up to the Innovation Centre around the turn of the New Year, having spent six months in the Cranfield University Business Incubation Centre (CUBIC) establishing itself as a fledgling company in the energy industry. The 'habitat' lifecycle story develops further when learning that the three founding directors worked together at Atkins Boreas; which, in turn, had its regional office in the Innovation Centre.



That Astrimar is very much an Innovation Habitat inspired start-up becomes even more evident in that Technical Director Dr John Strutt, was professor of reliability engineering and risk management at Cranfield before taking early retirement in 2005. Even now he sustains links with the University and is still a visiting professor for the Offshore and Ocean Technology MSc.

Dr Elizabeth Garry, the Operations Director, also has a Cranfield pedigree, having completed her PhD in the former College of Aeronautics, leading to a career in the field of wind engineering and related hazard and consequence analysis for the oil and gas industry. Not to end the Astrimar/Innovation Habitat story there: Managing Director Dr Caroline Roberts-Haritonov completes the trio of alumni, having gained her EngD in Risk Management with Cranfield.

Astrimar is now positioned at the forefront of the field of reliability engineering, by providing key tools and specific assurance solutions for engineers; an important aspect of this is support for the qualification of technology necessary for the growing number of deep water developments and the emerging technologies in the renewable energy sector.



An opportunity to contribute to and learn about the green-related activities being undertaken by Cranfield to reduce its carbon footprint, and find out about some of the latest research being undertaken here which is having an impact on the environment and world in which we live.

Look out for the direct mailings about the week's events.

News

Brahms Electric Vehicles visit UK national SAMPE conference

New tenant Brahms Electric Vehicles brought one of its electric vehicles to Cranfield for the first time for the UK national SAMPE (Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering) conference held at the University. "The main focus for Brahms is to make electric and hybrid vehicles more affordable. We do this by fitting our powertrains to light vehicles or light duty vehicles," said Dr Steve Cousins, Managing Director of the company. Keeping battery costs down is a priority for Brahms who use new materials in the vehicle to achieve this.



"SAMPE was a great place to show the vehicle chassis because it is the global association of manufacturers in carbon fibre composites. We are developing vehicles using carbon composites as a light-weighting technology and combining this with vehicle electrification. The company will be head quartered at Cranfield Innovation Centre from where the vehicle design and marketing will be focussed." Steve continued: "We selected the Centre because of the proximity to the University for technical collaboration plus the benefits of access to quality web and marketing 'know-how' at the Innovation Centre. And it's a nice place too!"

from our tenants

Hybrid Air Vehicles Fly in to Cranfield Technology Park

Hybrid Air Vehicles (HAV), the aerospace solutions company, has almost completed the relocation of its entire 100 plus workforce in Medway Court's Conway House and Building No.2. The company has even been on a recruitment drive since moving in just before Christmas last year.

This is all part of HAV's proposed continuing expansion plan after winning a multimillion dollar contract with the US Government. Gary Elliott, the CEO of HAV, is a Cranfield alumnus and realises that the University boasts a 60 year history of being at the forefront of aerospace technology, playing a big part in the aerospace business sector, and having close commercial partnerships with Airbus, BAE Systems, Boeing and Rolls-Royce.

HAV specialise in inflated airborne structures, having re-examined the basic principles behind 'lighter-than-air science' and applied modern technology and materials to this 100 year old concept. The unique capabilities of Hybrid's are steady hovering, landing and carrying large payloads, ability to set down in inhospitable terrains: all at impressive levels of low energy consumption. This technology is transformational in both transportation and surveillance.

Gordon Taylor, Director of Sales and Marketing said: "We are delighted to have secured space at Cranfield Technology Park which has the excellent communications services and high-quality office space which is essential for our continued expansion and success. We look forward to settling in and making full use of the facilities available to us both on the Park and through the University."



New look Cranfield University Technology Park Identity and website is on its way!

Following feedback from the tenant survey conducted last year and to meet the needs of potential occupiers, St. Modwen and Cranfield University is redesigning the Cranfield University Technology Park website and refreshing the identity for the Park.

The design process is already underway and we are very excited about unveiling the new look. We hope all of our tenants will get involved with the new website and contribute news and short pieces of information about your services. We will keep you updated on the timelines for the launch but we are aiming to go live any time now.

If you have any questions please contact the partnership's communications consultants M&N Communication.

T: 0207 7607529
E: h.mckinlay@mncommunications.co.uk

Secure your sponsored ticket for VentureDay

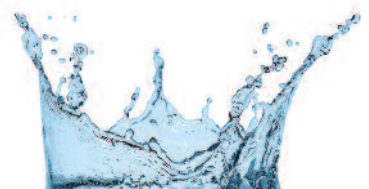
Thursday 12 May 2011

We have reserved tickets valued at £120 each just for you. VentureDay is the annual event when Cranfield's extended network of entrepreneurs, investors and advisors converge on Cranfield campus to network and deliver inspired presentations.

As a Tech Park tenant these tickets are free of charge to you, but availability is limited on a 'first come first served' basis.

To view the full schedule, see details of all those speaking and to book your space visit:

www.ventureday.co.uk



Bidwriting.com sponsored Porsche wins classic sports car championship



Martyn Curley, Director of Bidwriting.com, based at the Innovation Centre, has won the Bugatti Owners Club, pre 72 Classic Sports Car Championship. Martyn clinched the title in appalling weather conditions in the final round of the competition at Prescott Hill, Gloucestershire. The championship was hard fought and after 6 rounds, only one point separated 1st and 2nd place at the start of the day's runs.

Fellow director Steve Oldbury, said: "We spend most of our time helping people to win work with their tenders, so it is good to see this service being advertised on the winning car." He continued: "the great thing about the company name is that it attracts a lot of attention, as it does what it says on the tin and, of course, we do like to win".

Bidwriting.com has a separate specialist division providing services to residential landlords called Social Housing Support which has adopted the same winning ways, having recently been announced as preferred bidder on a major project for 2011.

For further details visit:
www.bidwriting.com



Space and availability

Cranfield Technology Park provides an ideal setting for new and established businesses alike. If you are looking to expand your business, or know others who are, here are details of the space currently available:

Innovation Centre

Unit 12 - 615 sq ft	Unit 29 - 1780 sq ft
Unit 14 - 949 sq ft	Unit 30B - 1066 sq ft
Unit 15 - 929 sq ft	Unit 36 - 1285 sq ft
Unit 26B - 843 sq ft	Unit 37 - 1689 sq ft
Unit 26B - 843 sq ft	Unit 41 - 1085 sq ft
	Unit 16 - 787 sq ft

Trent House

Suite - 3393 sq ft
Suite - 1955 sq ft

Derwent House

Ground Floor and First Floor - 8,000 sq ft

Building 5 Medway Court - 5,202 sq ft

For enquiries contact Val Kidd
T: 01234 756000
E: val.kidd@stmodwen.co.uk



Innovation Centre



Trent House



Derwent House

Tech Park Times is produced by
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