

Technology Strategy Board

Driving Innovation

Media alert

11 October 2011

Business Secretary to announce investment to accelerate commercialisation of low carbon vehicles

The Business Secretary, Vince Cable, will announce today that the government plans to invest at least a further £15 million in projects to accelerate the commercialisation of low carbon vehicles.

Speaking at the Innovate11 conference and exhibition in London, the Business Secretary will say that the research and development projects funded by the investment will focus on reducing costs in the supply base and making progress in areas such as energy storage and management, and lightweight vehicle and powertrain structures.

The investment will be delivered through a funding competition managed by the Technology Strategy Board, working in concert with the Office for Low Emission Vehicles. Details of the funding competition are still to be finalised and will be announced by the Technology Strategy Board as soon as possible.

The competition is likely to open for proposals in January 2012 and will lead to investment in highly-innovative, industry-led collaborative research and development projects that will achieve significant cuts in road transport CO₂, strengthen the UK's capabilities and bring low carbon vehicle technologies through onto the UK's roads more quickly.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. To see all press releases issued today at Innovate11, and suggestions for potential features and other stories around the event, please visit: <http://www.innovateuk.org/deliveringinnovation/innovate-11/innovate-press-centre.ashx>.
2. The **Technology Strategy Board** is a business-led government body which works to create economic growth by ensuring that the UK is a global leader in innovation. Sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Technology Strategy Board brings together business, research and the public sector, supporting and accelerating the development of innovative products and services to meet market needs, tackle major societal challenges and help build the future economy. For more information please visit: [Technology Strategy Board website](#).
3. The vision of the Technology Strategy Board is for the UK to be a global leader in innovation and a magnet for innovative businesses, where technology is applied rapidly, effectively and sustainably to create wealth

and enhance quality of life. Our approach to accelerating the pace of innovation in the UK is captured in our strategy document, *Concept to Commercialisation*, published in May 2011. This builds on our first strategy, developed in 2008, and sets out new directions, taking into account the challenges and exciting opportunities that lie ahead. To see the new strategy please visit: [Concept to Commercialisation](#).

4. The Technology Strategy Board's [connect](#) platform provides an effective and powerful way to collaborate online, network and share knowledge with other innovators. It provides a place to work together securely and share information & knowledge. Users can utilise the online tools to work collaboratively, discuss ideas and find events. The networks offer up-to-the minute news on funding, events, articles and publications, plus information about all 15 Knowledge Transfer Networks. Through the networks, users can find potential business partners, entrepreneurs, collaborators, other innovators, researchers and academics.
5. The competition will be delivered by the Technology Strategy Board through the Low Carbon Vehicles Innovation Platform (LCVIP), which was established in September 2007 to promote low carbon vehicle research, design, development and demonstration in the UK. This will be the seventh competition under the LCVIP's Integrated Delivery Programme (IDP). The IDP aims to integrate the low carbon vehicle innovation chain, from the science base, through collaborative R&D to fleet-level demonstration. The programme has secured funding from the Technology Strategy Board, the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Department for Business Innovation and Skills, regional bodies and devolved administrations. The Low Carbon Vehicles Innovation Platform has been working with key stakeholders to understand the research priorities needed to support the future developments of road vehicles to help reduce carbon emissions and therefore meet UK and EU climate change targets. For further information please visit: [LCVIP](#).
6. Media enquiries **only** should be addressed to the Technology Strategy Board's media relations consultant or manager: Nick Sheppard, Media Relations Consultant - Mobile: 07824 599644, Email: <mailto:nick.sheppard@tsb.gov.uk> or Claire Cunningham, Media Relations Manager - Tel: 01793 442901, Mobile: 07554 115745 Email: <mailto:claire.cunningham@tsb.gov.uk>.
7. Companies and other organisations seeking information about Technology Strategy Board funding competitions should visit the Competitions page of the Technology Strategy Board website – [Competitions page](#), email <mailto:competitions@innovateuk.org> or phone the Competitions Helpline at 0300 321 4357.
8. To see all press releases from the Technology Strategy Board please visit: [Press Releases](#).
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