

Technology Strategy Board

Driving Innovation

Press release

11 October 2011

New government funding will stimulate growth-creating innovations

Businesses from across the country are being invited to compete for a share of nearly £18 million of new government funding to develop technological innovations that may create growth for the UK.

The Technology Strategy Board (www.innovateuk.org), together with Scottish Enterprise (www.scottish-enterprise.com), will seek proposals for business-focussed research and development projects in a broad range of technology areas - Advanced Materials; Biosciences; Electronics, Photonics & Electrical Systems; Information & Communications Technology and Nanoscale Technologies.

David Bott, Director of Innovation Programmes at the Technology Strategy Board, said:

“We are particularly keen to encourage innovation in new technologies that can lead to the creation of other products and processes which support future development across different application areas. We would also be interested in proposals that take a known technology into new application areas, where significant technical challenges need to be overcome.

“Innovation in these technology areas could be applied across a range of areas – such as in healthcare, transport, food, environmental sustainability and construction – and would help stimulate economic growth. We need to create and develop such new technologies in order to make innovation happen and provide solutions to challenges in these important application areas.

Jan Reid, head of Scottish Enterprise's Enabling Technologies & Advanced Engineering team, commented:

"The application and adoption of new technologies will aid our economic recovery and growth. Scotland has the company expertise and academic excellence that we need to translate these technologies into real world business innovations. I would encourage all businesses to think about this call for ideas and how they can exploit this opportunity for growth.

The new funding will complement the Technology Strategy Board's wide range of 'challenge-led' investments, which are designed to help address society's most pressing needs in areas such as health, energy and low carbon.

The Technology Strategy Board has allocated up to £15 million to fund collaborative R&D projects and Scottish Enterprise will provide up to £2.75 million of additional funding. The competition opens for

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proposals on 31 October 2011 and expressions of interest must be submitted by 7 December 2011. For further information please visit: <http://www.innovateuk.org/content/competition/technology-inspired-innovation.ashx>.

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. For further information about the *Technology-Inspired Collaborative Research and Development* funding competition please visit: <http://www.innovateuk.org/content/competition/technology-inspired-innovation.ashx>.
6. For further information on Scottish Enterprise priorities for this funding call, please refer to www.scottish-enterprise.com/your-sector/technology.aspx
7. 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>.

8. 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.
9. To see all press releases from the Technology Strategy Board please visit: [Press Releases](#).
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