

Technology Strategy Board

Driving Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

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TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY BOARD

TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY BOARD TO INVEST FURTHER £72 MILLION IN INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Technology Strategy Board is to invest a further £72 million in innovative new research and development projects in eight key areas, its Chief Executive, Iain Gray, announced today.

The ten new competitions, in important areas such as photonics, high value manufacturing, intelligent transport systems, network security and energy generation and supply, will be split into three phases, with the first three competitions opening in November.

The purpose of the competitions is to stimulate innovation, with businesses working together and with academic and research institutions on new research and development that will lead to successful new products and services.

The invitation to submit proposals was made at today's Innovate08 conference and exhibition, held in London. Announcing details of the competitions, the Technology Strategy Board's Chief Executive, Iain Gray, said: "It is vital that the UK maintains its core expertise in the key technologies which underpin business growth. And it is no less vital to maintain a pipeline of new advances, in order to keep UK businesses at the leading edge. We are confident these competitions will generate proposals for innovative new research and development projects. We look forward to seeing some exciting proposals."

The technology areas for which submissions are invited are

Phase 1, opening 10 November 2008:

- Photonics: Next Generation Optical Internet Access (1st round)
- Advanced Materials: Sustainable Materials and Products
- Intelligent Transport Systems and Services: Informed Personal Travel

Phase 2, opening 19 January 2009:

- High Value Manufacturing: Step Changes in Competitiveness; Value Systems
- Energy Generation and Supply: Maximising Recovery of UK's Oil and Gas Resources
- Photonics: Next Generation Optical Internet Access (2nd round)
- Low Impact Buildings: Design and Decision Tools

Phase 3, opening 16 March 2009:

- Creative Industries: Accessing and Commercialising Content in a Digitally Networked World
- Energy Generation and Supply: Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Technologies
- Network Security: Interdependency, Complexity and Risk

Notes to Editors

The Technology Strategy Board is a business-led executive non-departmental public body, established by the government. Its mission is to promote and support research into, and development and exploitation of, technology and innovation for the benefit of UK business, in order to increase economic growth and improve the quality of life. It is sponsored by the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS).

The Collaborative Research and Development Programme is investing directly in new and emerging technologies and has been designed to help businesses work with each other or with academic partners to develop technologies that will underpin products and services of the future. Since 2004, the programme has supported nearly 1000 projects across over 40 technology areas with a combined business and government investment worth over £1 billion.

For further information please visit www.innovateuk.org.

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