

Innovation Awards/2023

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**UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM**



**THE TECHNOLOGY
SUPPLY CHAIN**

FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023

DINNER | CEREMONY | ENTERTAINMENT

LEARN DEVELOP GROW

Supporting people to build sustainable and successful careers through skills training, and working with diversity-focused employer connections



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Find out more



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**Innovation
Awards/2023**

What is the Technology Supply Chain?

The Technology Supply Chain is the organisation behind the Innovation Awards. The TSC is a membership for UK manufacturing, engineering and technology companies. We connect you with the grants, fully funded support and new opportunities appropriate to your business.

Established in Birmingham in 2019, we have rapidly expanded to over 4,000 members spread across the UK..

- We are a Community Interest Company
- We do not take a commission from grants or funded support
- We are funded through universities, generous patrons and grants

Find the right grants, fully funded support and new opportunities for your business by booking a discovery meeting at www.TechnologySupplyChain.co.uk or by e-mailing richard@TechnologySupplyChain.co.uk or by calling him on 0778 9952251.

**The Technology
Supply Chain**

#Together#We#Grow



Your Trusted Innovation Funding and Tax Partner

Dedicated to powering businesses with tax relief, grant funding, and global tax management.



Capital Allowances



Grant Funding



Patent Box



Research and Development



Tax Technology and Transformation



VAT Compliance



VAT Consulting



VAT Recovery

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tax.ryan.com/innovation-funding

Innovation Awards/2023

Message from the Directors



Dr Richard Fallon
TSC Director

On behalf of the Technology Supply Chain, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the third Innovation Awards. I am pleased to say that the Awards are attracting attention from far and wide. We are delighted to welcome our first international finalists from the Netherlands and Azerbaijan as well as from major UK companies like JLR.

We had our highest ever number of nominees with over 22,000 people placing over 90,000 votes which has led to our largest ever ceremony!

It is always a privilege to work with innovators. Our judges have yet again been stunned by the quality of the finalists. Our members, partners, patrons and sponsors have been impressed by the world-class work being done in the West Midlands, the UK and other countries.

The Innovation Awards were created to recognise, celebrate and reward the companies, individuals and organisations dedicated to innovation as well as those who support them. We are thrilled that the Awards are inspiring others as evidenced by the **massive year-on-year growth in our membership**.

Given the unprecedented growth and interest in the Innovation

Awards, we are delighted to announce that in 2024, we will have two Innovation Awards. The first will be in Birmingham which will cover the Midlands, Wales and the South. The second in Manchester which will cover the North, Scotland and Northern Ireland. We will also include a new category for International Innovators.

Welcome to the Innovation Awards 2023. Enjoy your evening!



Prof. Paul Cadman
TSC Director

It is inspirational to see all the incredible things that are happening in the West Midlands and across UK.

Very few businesses are aware of the major achievements occurring daily across the manufacturing, technology, healthtech and services sectors in the region.

Manufacturing and engineering are massive in the Midlands. These companies have been innovating to tackle the various challenges from a shortage of people and rising interest rates to the spiralling cost of energy and Net Zero.

What it is great to see is how local companies and organisations are supporting each other. Engineering and technology

companies in the Midlands have done an amazing job in developing practical solutions to these challenges from finding the needed finance through to process optimisation. Our local universities, among the best in the world, are helping companies to increase energy efficiency and automation to increase productivity and boost profitability.

For seven years running, until 2021, Birmingham has been named the UK's number one regional startup capital, and the trend for innovation continues as hundreds more startups have chosen to make this great city their home.

Technology is all about innovation. It is focused on streamlining processes and delivering innovative solutions to both individuals and businesses. Many of the challenges we currently face such as an aging population and a tight labour market will be relieved through the innovative use of technology.

Technology, from the Internet of Things through machine learning to AI, is already helping our manufacturing, technology and services companies to improve their efficiency, productivity and sustainability.

The West Midlands and the UK has a long-standing reputation for innovation. It is also fantastic to see finalists from other countries. I am delighted that these Awards celebrate all our achievements.

HOW TO BECOME AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE



Attracting & Retaining the best talent starts with company culture & team engagement. Communication plays a vital role in creating a community where people thrive. Happy Team Members remain with your company longer keeping operating costs lower.

Our tech solution is inexpensive (costs the same as a cup of coffee & a sandwich). And you get all our membership benefits for FREE!

Your hosts



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PROFITS TO
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Starting Point Recruitment

Become part of the Technology Supply Chain

Patrons

There are tens of millions available in grants and funded support to help manufacturing, engineering and technology companies. Some companies find a grant or funded project but rarely discover everything available to them.

The TSC was established as a membership to direct you to all the innovation support available so you can reduce costs, improve productivity or develop new products.

We have grown rapidly to over 4,000 members. Working on a one-to-one basis with members, we find out about them and connect them to the right grants and support.

"We're making progress and ploughing through the list of referrals you made for us. We still have many more projects in the pipeline and will be contacting more of the people you kindly introduced us to as soon as we complete some of the projects already started. Who knew so much help was available!"

Liz Anson, Isaac Grainger's, Cradley Heath

You are invited to book a discovery meeting at www.TechnologySupplyChain.co.uk/discovery or by contacting Richard at richard@TechnologySupplyChain.co.uk or on 0121 724 0701.

The TSC is largely funded by generous patrons. We work in partnership with our patrons and support them in various ways including:

- Speaking and exhibiting at our events
- Arranging exclusive Patron's dinners
- Inviting them to our table at black-tie events
- Organising networking events such as rugby lunches for 400 guests
- Directly referring our members to them
- Promoting them on our web site and social media
- Giving them a place on our steering committee

"From day one, we have had active referrals from the Technology Supply Chain. By working closely with the team, we have turned many of these into new clients. The TSC's discovery meetings and active support sets them apart from other membership organisations.

We enjoy working with the TSC, speaking at their events and supporting their members. We are busy with referrals and look forward to meeting more Patrons at their exclusive dinners."

TSC Patron- Rory Alkin,
Regional Development Director, Catax

Interested?

If you would like to find out more,
please contact Richard Fallon
at richard@TechnologySupplyChain.co.uk
or on **0121 724 0701**.

Awards Finalists

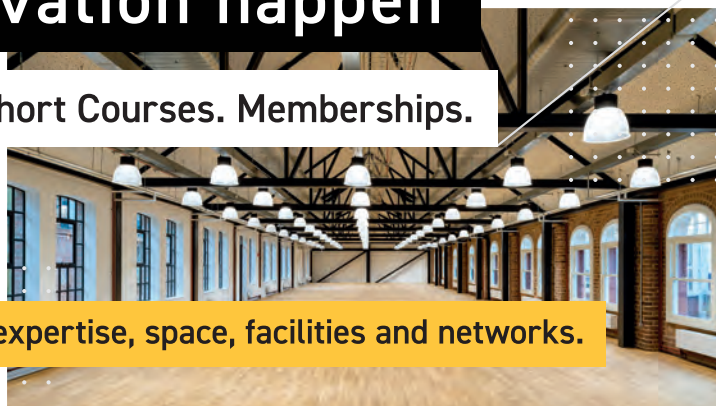
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Grow your business with our knowledge, expertise, space, facilities and networks.

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steamhouse.org.uk/innovate



ENVIROWEAR

ENVIROWEAR[®] BRINGING CIRCULARITY TO THE WORKPLACE

SUSTAINABLE REVOLUTION

A clothing revolution is changing the way garments are made and how wearers want to interact with brands. Envirowear[®] has been designed to be recycled.

THE CHALLENGES

Of the 40 million workwear garments provided to wearers annually in the UK over 90% end up in landfill or get incinerated.

Garments are often blended with other fibres rendering them almost impossible to recycle. Trims, accessories and finishes introduce further barriers to recycling.

CIRCULAR CLOTHING

Beeswift's Envirowear[®] collection makes circular hi-visibility clothing achievable for the first time. By using only mono-fibre design principles, each fabric, trim and accessory is carefully selected to ensure recyclability.

By transitioning to circular, recyclable clothing, you support:

- Clothing as a renewable resource
- Carbon footprint lowered by as much as 70%
- Zero high visibility clothing to landfill or incineration



ENVIROWEAR[®] IS MANUFACTURED FROM 100% POST-CONSUMER PLASTICS WITH AN AVERAGE OF 11, 1 LITRE PLASTIC BOTTLES USED PER GARMENT ACROSS THE RANGE.

Manufacturing Innovator of the Year

- Brandauer
- Hockley Mint / Merrell Casting
- Miele Professional
- Nourish3d
- Webster and Horsfall

Engineering Innovator of the Year

- Passenger Lift Solutions
- Inond
- RSS Infrastructure and Toger Aviation
- SMART Balustrades
- Whiteley Brooks Engineering

Sustainability Innovator of the Year

- Acleron Energy
- Jigsaw Infrared
- Incredible Husk
- Low Carbon Materials
- Promethean Particles

Tech Innovator of the Year

- Active Needle Technology
- CrossTech
- CyberQ
- DOST Digital Innovations Center
- Intercity Technology

Services Innovator of the Year

- DRP Group
- Intelligent Outsourcing
- Jaguar Land Rover
- Liquid
- Talbots Law

Community Innovator of the Year

- Acorns
- Birmingham Enterprise Community
- First Class Foundation
- Free At Last
- Legacy Centre of Excellence

New Innovation of the Year

- Bloomwise
- Origin21
- Positive Power Coaching
- SafeQueen
- Seergrills

Female Innovator of the Year

- Angela Maxwell
- Renia Gkountiou
- Henrietta Brealey
- Clare Hatton
- Dr Sonia Reynolds

Male Innovator of the Year

- Tom Haworth
- Johnathan Dudley
- Justin Beardsell
- Gino Martini
- Matt Jones

Young Innovator of the Year

- William Utting
- Helene Ntuadi
- Louis Geary-Smith
- Shireenah Ingram
- Lucy Gilbert

Manufacturing Innovation Champion | Business

- Birmingham City University Help to Grow
- Cast Metal Federation
- Confederation of British Metalforming
- Manufacturing Growth Programme
- University of Birmingham Get into Rail

Sustainability Innovation Champion | Organisation

- Keele University - Smart Energy Network Demonstrator
- Tyseley Energy Park
- University of Birmingham Centre for Responsible Business
- University of Derby Green Entrepreneurs Programme
- University of Northampton Sustainability Hub

Tech Innovation Champion | Organisation

- Advanced Propulsion Centre UK
- BetaDen
- PHTA
- STEAMHouse
- Wolverhampton University Spark Innovation Hub

Manufacturing Innovation Champion | Business

- Action Coach
- Gallagher
- Marchant Cain
- Smallfry Industrial Design
- WEST

Sustainability Innovation Champion | Business

- Carbon Limiting Technologies
- Hill and Smith Plc
- International Synergies
- Sustainability West Midlands
- Julie Gallagher

Tech Innovation Champion | Business

- CyberQ Group
- Digital Innov8ors
- Docky
- Intercity Technology
- SuperTech WM

Innovation Leader | Business

- BCRS
- Engineers Insight
- FundingHero
- Mills & Reeve
- Stay Future Proof

Innovation Leader | Individual

- Charlotte Bowden
- David Webb
- Deb Leary
- Henry Carpenter
- Pam Waddell

Innovation Leader | Organisation

- Aston University, Aston Centre for Growth
- GBS LEP Growth Hub
- West Midlands Combined Authority
- Minority Supplier Development UK
- WMG SME Group
- Warwick Univeristy

Manufacturing Innovator of the year

Manufacturing is vital to the UK economy. Make UK's annual analysis shows a significant jump in output from £183 to £224 billion. The UK has climbed from 9th to 8th place in the global manufacturing rankings, cementing its role as a key player in the industry. Given the on-going challenges in the sector including rising interest rates, spiralling energy costs and ballooning raw material prices on top of net zero requirements and the problems around productivity recruitment and retention, there is a call for innovation which is being answered in numerous ways. This award recognises and celebrates the manufacturing company that has produced the most innovation over the last 12 months.

HOCKLEY MINT
EMPLOYEE OWNED
JEWELLERY MANUFACTURER

Hockley Mint / Merrell Casting

Hockley Mint is a British, employee-owned jewellery manufacturer with over 70 years of knowledge, experience, and expertise. Our skilled team of craftspeople design and create handmade, bespoke, fine jewellery, in our own factory in the famous Birmingham jewellery quarter, ensuring we deliver with assurance, reliability and confidence. We offer a large collection of bridal, occasional and everyday worn jewellery. We can also provide all aspects of manufacturing including casting (same day 5-hour casting available), CAD/CAM, CNC and handmade.

 **BRANDAUER**

Brandauer

Brandauer, a Queens Award for Enterprise Winner, provides over a billion stamped components into multiple sectors every year. Supplying into the North American, European, Middle Eastern, African and Southeast Asia regions from in-house manufactured precision progression tooling, we have seen increased requirements for stamped components since the development of our modular micron accurate tooling models and we are looking to expand our market share with the ongoing investment in new people, technology and state of the art research and development collaborations.

Miele

Miele Professional

The professional division of Miele is the world's leading manufacturer of commercial laundry and dishwashing solutions, as well as washer-disinfectors and sterilisers for use in laboratory and medical applications. Miele is recognised for its quality solutions, founded on its reputation of quality.

Miele is committed to creating a sustainable future for the planet, with the ultimate aim of making the best products that are 100% carbon neutral.

NOURISHED

Nourish3d

Founded in 2019, Nourished is an award-winning tech startup who developed patented 3D printing technology to create the world's first truly personalised nutrient gummy.

Consumers can complete a short questionnaire at get-nourished.com, where a science backed algorithm makes a recommendation of 7 vitamins, superfoods and nutrients best suited to the user's lifestyle and goals. Nourished delivers bespoke customer orders on demand in 100% plastic free packaging with less waste, hassle and cost than purchasing all the active ingredients separately.

Webster & Horsfall  est. 1720

Webster and Horsfall

Webster and Horsfall Ltd is a distinguished British company established in 1720, with over three centuries of experience in wire manufacturing. Specializing in steel wire products, they provide high-quality solutions for various industries, including automotive, aerospace, and construction.

The company's expertise lies in wire drawing, galvanizing, and wire rope production, utilizing advanced technology and sustainable practices. Webster and Horsfall's commitment to innovation, reliability, and customer satisfaction has earned them a prominent position in the global market, making them a trusted partner for businesses seeking top-notch wire solutions.



Engineering Innovator of the year

The Midlands and the UK has been the home of many pioneering engineers including Matthew Boulton, James Watt, Robert Stephenson, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and John Logie Baird. This award celebrates the engineering firm that has demonstrated innovation in solving a real-world problem.



Passenger Lift Solutions

For over 30 years, Passenger Lift Solutions has been the UK's leading manufacturer of wheelchair lifts for passenger accessible vehicles. Renowned for engineering excellence and build quality, we believe in making travel accessible to all. We continuously innovate our products and services with a range of tailored solutions to ensure the highest quality.

What sets us apart is our unique approach to designing, developing, and delivering individual projects backed up by our comprehensive warranty and after-sales support.



RSS Infrastructure and Toger Aviation

RSS Infrastructure, in partnership with Tiger Aviation, presents the Aerial Saw Project, a game-changer in vegetation management for the UK rail sector. This innovative approach, approved by the Civil Aviation Authority, offers significant cost and time savings, reducing the risk of train damage from overgrown foliage.

The aerial saw can access remote locations, enhancing operational efficiency and reducing environmental impact. This pioneering solution is set to redefine tree management near rail lines, ensuring safety and sustainability.



Inond

Inond [ih-non] Product Realisation help turn ideas into reality. Our approach focuses on ensuring product innovation is accessible to all.

Our holistic 'Product Realisation' service goes beyond design and engineering - from assessing a product's business model to securing funding and user trials. We're able to setup long term client supplier relationships whilst offering continued advisory support. Viability is assessed early, minimising costs, delays, and surprises. Our projects are structured in flexible phases, enabling regular stakeholder, market, and legislative alignment.



SMART Balustrades

Established in July 2017, SMART Balustrades was founded by brothers David and Jonathan Hough, driven by their shared passion for balustrade engineering excellence. With a commitment to innovation and craftsmanship, SMART Balustrades has rapidly emerged as a leading name in the industry.

Our expertise lies in creating cutting-edge solutions for balustrade systems, including switchable glass balustrades, photovoltaic glass balustrades, and clear plastic glass stiffeners. With a focus on safety, design, and quality, we strive to push the boundaries of what is possible, delivering exceptional results that exceed expectations.



Whiteley Brooks Engineering

Whiteley Brooks Engineering has for over 55 years been manufacturing precision components for a number of sectors, including Motorsport, Formula 1, World Rally, Diesel Testing, Medical and Defence. Since the late 1970's, the car for every world Formula 1 champion has had a component or a range of parts that have been manufactured by Whiteley Brooks.

Our team takes great pride in the work we carry out which is one of our key success factors. The future looks promising allowing us to be 'Keeping Ahead Of The Game' as our company slogan states.



Sustainability Innovator of the year

Sustainability is vital. It improves the quality of our lives, protects our ecosystem and preserves natural resources for future generations. It covers many aspects in business from manufacturing to logistics to customer service. Innovation is the key to making all aspects of our lives and business sustainable. This award celebrates those companies who are working hard to make their offering sustainable.



Aceleron Energy

Aceleron is a clean technology company dedicated to tackling the energy crisis and solving the battery waste challenge without compromising quality and performance. Co-founded by industry experts Dr Amrit Chandan and Carlton Cummins, Aceleron has built the world's first circular-economy lithium-ion battery. Utilising their patented technology, each battery component is designed for easy maintenance, repair, or upgrade. Combining ingenious hardware with intelligent software, Aceleron is pushing the boundaries of green technology whilst empowering global communities by increasing access to energy.



Better Heating for a Better World

Jigsaw Infrared

Jigsaw Infrared realised business isn't all about making money. Success comes to those who find the best, supplying the best products, supporting with the best service and ensuring customers have confidence and belief in you.

Our mission is to manufacture the best infrared heating, use the safest components, source locally and to help build a better world. Innovation is key and we never stop improving, always searching for ways to help with decarbonisation.

Is perfection achievable? We'll never stop searching.



Incredible Husk

Incredible Husk International is an innovative UK research and development biotechnology group. It specialises in the development of innovative materials to replace the current materials that are harmful for the environment. HuskPure: a unique material comprising of agricultural-waste by-products and a bio-based non-synthetic binder to replace plastic.

HuskPlus: is composed of 52% HuskPure material and 48% of waste plastic to clean up plastic pollution. Incredible Cladding: is a novel, highly innovative material which can take the appearance of leather or wood and stone if mixed differently.



Low Carbon Materials

Low Carbon Materials (LCM) is a climate tech company and Earthshot Prize finalist focusing on low-carbon, next-generation construction material alternatives in the race to Net-Zero. Our novel process creates a carbon-negative aggregate - OSTO® - which is used in the production of concrete as a substitute for traditional carbon-intensive materials, making carbon-neutral concrete.

Our science-led innovation is 2.5x lighter than traditional mineral aggregates, thermally insulating and sequesters and permanently stores CO2. OSTO is made of unrecyclable waste products that would otherwise be incinerated.



Promethean Particles

Promethean Particles is a global pioneer in the industrial-scale manufacture of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) and other speciality nanomaterials, using a range of patented reactors to dramatically improve throughput and cost whilst increasing process reliability and consistency.

The Company is primarily focused on developing MOFs for use in the fight against climate change, particularly for carbon capture and storage ("CCS"). Other applications for the Company's products include water harvesting, gas separation and storage, green hydrogen catalysis, and high-efficiency thermal fluid additives.



Tech Innovator of the year

The UK has a burgeoning tech sector including HealthTech, CleanTech, FinTech, AgriTech, LegalTech and others.

Tech is all about innovation and finding new solutions to old problems. This award recognises the tech firm that has developed the most innovative solution to solve real-world problems.



Active Needle Technology

Active Needle Technology Ltd. (ANT) is a medical device company that is revolutionising needle applications with its innovative platform ultrasound technology. ANT's technology imparts high frequency pulsation to needles. This short, but highly rapid, movement:

Reduces tip deflection and 'lights up' an otherwise difficult to see needle on ultrasound imaging, allowing accurate needle placement, reduces pain and skin trauma and improves local distribution of drugs, allowing localised treatment.

The company is exploiting these effects in a variety of applications in medicine, medico-cosmetic and life sciences sectors. The technology promises reducing in-hospital costs and time, better patient experience and upskilling less experienced users, allowing better use of scarce medical resources.

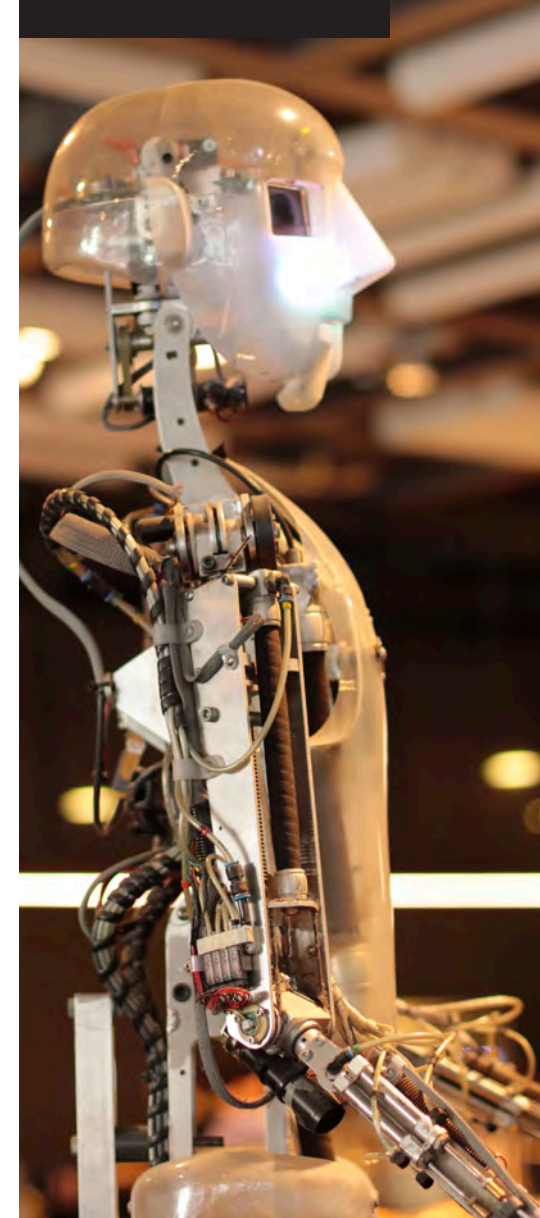


CrossTech

CrossTech delivers Network Rail's leading automated digital lineside inspection platform, Hubble.

Hubble works collaboratively with train operators to ingest video from the front of trains to produce insights on vegetation encroachment, hazardous vegetation species, signal obstruction, graffiti, and signal sighting faults to name but a few. These insights are used by Network Rail's front-line teams to support the industry's shift to preventative maintenance.

With a growing global footprint, CrossTech use AI within transport to drive innovation, enhance operational performance, efficiency, and safety. Please note: Hubble is one of Great Britain's leading AI success stories and received support from the Department of Transport, Network Rail and Innovate UK.



CyberQ

CyberQ Group is a globally recognised leader in cybersecurity, renowned for protecting data, privacy, and reputation. They analyse and understand organisations, crafting tailored cybersecurity journeys to enhance their cyber maturity. Not focused on technology sales, they emphasize the importance of people and processes to maximise security benefits. Their core values centre around caring for their customers and offering continuous support as a trusted advisor. With the ever-evolving threat landscape, CyberQ Group's expertise becomes indispensable for businesses looking to minimise risk and conduct secure operations in a world of constant threats.



Intercity Technology

At Intercity, we have developed our Cyber Security Framework based on the National Cyber Security Centre framework for securing critical infrastructure.

This pivotal framework takes a holistic approach to security, simplifying industry and government best practices so that businesses are able to develop and embed a people wide culture, where security becomes a shared responsibility.

Our framework encapsulates technology, skills, operations and training to enable everyone, from board level to entry-level employees, to be on the same security journey.



DOST Digital Innovations Center

DOST Digital Innovations Center's core strategy revolves around the simplification and digitization of social service provision processes by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population in Azerbaijan. With a strong emphasis on citizen-centricity, the Center is committed to expanding proactive services and broadening the range of e-services. Notably, 91% of public social services have already been successfully digitized. Ongoing projects focus on centralizing and unifying the management of social e-services to enhance efficiency and convenience for citizens.

Services Innovator of the year

The UK has a strong professional services sector which stretches well beyond London. The way to stay strong is to stay ahead through innovation. Innovation in the services sector is important but under-acknowledged. This awards sets the record straight by recognising the most innovative services company.



DRP Group

DRPG, a worldwide creative communications group, crafts integrated solutions and experiences for diverse clients and brands.

They excel in innovation, championing ESG and securing 'The Queen's Award for Sustainable Development' – the only creative agency to achieve this. Listed among the top 100 best companies to work for (Business and Innovation Magazine), DRPG pioneers groundbreaking technology, fosters exceptional team culture, and offers unrivalled services, making 'Anything Possible'.



Intelligent Outsourcing

Intelligent Outsourcing is run by a UK accountant, Nikolai Naylor, for accountants. iO helps accountancy practices to navigate their challenges and grow by providing them with an offshore team of accountants and administrators for about half the cost of employing their UK equivalent. It is much quicker and easier to attract and retain talent in the Philippines. Offshoring is the proven way to for accountants to grow their practice while minimising the associated costs and risks. Download our free whitepaper at <https://intelligentoutsourcing.co.uk/>.



Jaguar Land Rover

JLR are reimagining the future of modern luxury by design through our two distinct, British brands.

Two brands. Two distinct personalities. Both connected by the elements of quality and sustainability that underpin JLR's future of modern luxury by design. It is our strategy to realise our vision to be proud creators of the most desirable, modern luxury brands, for the most discerning of clients.

JLR has been a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Motors, in which Tata Sons is the largest shareholder, since 2008.



Liquid

Liquid is a global, integrated, and award-winning creative consultancy. Since its inception in a Bromsgrove garage in 2004, Liquid has grown from a small PR start-up to a versatile marketing and communications consultancy boasting a team of over 35 employees. With offices in Birmingham, UK and Brisbane, Australia, Liquid continues to deliver ground-breaking and innovative projects to clients across 25 jurisdictions around the globe.



Talbots Law

Talbots Law positions itself in the market as a trailblazer, committed to challenging and reinventing misconceptions that may exist around engaging a law firm for any level of personal or commercial legal support. By investing in infrastructure, continually developing its team, growing both organically and through acquisition and creating new ways of working in the industry such as moving to employee-ownership, Talbots Law commits to its mantra of being there for its clients and its colleague for law, and for life.



Community Innovator of the year

There is wide array of Charities and Community Interest Companies which provide much needed support to the communities they work in. This award recognises and celebrates those organisations who have innovated to help better support their communities



Acorns

Acorns cares for over 700 children every year. Last year, we introduced the Family Portal – the first of its kind within the children's hospice sector. This online tool allows families to book or amend short breaks for their child without having to call the hospice. It also stores information about each child which families can update in their own time. The Portal has transformed the way we can engage with our families, enabling Acorns to better support the needs of all the children we care for.



Birmingham Enterprise Community

BEC is a Birmingham based social enterprise that supports businesses & entrepreneurs from 20 different countries to grow and scale through its range of award-winning business support programmes. As an enterprise support agency run by entrepreneurs, BEC understands the challenges of running a business and helps businesses navigate the barriers and challenges to unlock growth and success across multiple industries. BEC also delivers specialist support in support businesses in green skills and sustainability as well as internationalisation and new market entry.



First Class Foundation

First Class Foundation is a West Midlands based charity, founded in 2019, that specialises in Youth and Community Outreach and Engagement. Our three main objectives are to reduce youth violence, to improve the mental health resilience of young people and to connect young people and their families to their purpose through meaningful and positive activities, such as job opportunities, access to provisions, connecting, mentoring and, support.



Free At Last

free@last support, enable and equip our inner-city children and young people to reduce the severity and frequency of the struggles they face and to improve their lives by expanding their skills, knowledge and opportunities, and giving them the change to dream. We do this by providing support, activities, adventure, exploration, life skills and business skills. We have 2 teenage youth led businesses (brumting.co.uk and faffree.co.uk) and we have given over 40 young people their first job at our familyfunzone.co.uk.



Legacy Centre of Excellence

Legacy Centre of Excellence is the largest Black Arts and Business Centre in Europe. The facility is in the heart of the community and has small and large flexible spaces/various amenities which are used by local people from diverse communities.

The organisation uses innovative methods to engage different communities; improve the artistic, cultural, economic and STEM ecology of North Birmingham, and support regional and national work in partnership with organisations who share our values.

We deliver training and educational programs, internships, work placements, support for small businesses and initiatives that improve local people's wellbeing.



New Innovation of the year

New innovations are vital for growth and prosperity. When assessing the other categories, judges look at the impact of the innovation and associated sales over the previous 12 months. This category has been created specifically to recognise and celebrate those innovations that have less than 12 months of traction or sales.



Bloomwise

Bloomwise is a mental health consultancy business that provides B2B proactive workplace mental health solutions. Their core objective is to help create a healthier, happier, and more productive workforce. The company is led by the co-founders Frankie, a PhD researcher at the University of Birmingham and Paris, a lecturer in Artificial Intelligence in Mental Health at King's College London. Both have had personal experiences with mental health, either directly or through loved ones, so it is a cause they are passionate about."



ORIGIN21

Origin21

Origin21 has revolutionised the production of green hydrogen by reducing its cost of production using sonication.

This method is so effective it can be used from salt water all the way through to deionised water and can reduce the power requirements by up to 50%.

This means cheaper green hydrogen with a much smaller footprint. e have several other technologies including the extraction of hydrogen from water without electricity and the conversion of diesel generators into hydrogen hybrid ICE.



Seergrills

PWhat happens when AI meets grilling? Witness the biggest leap in cooking since the discovery of Fire.

Introducing Perfecta™

The World's First AI Powered Grill. The World's Fastest Grill. The World's Most Intelligent Grill. The World's Most Efficient Grill.

Using patent pending NeuralFire™ technology this SMART grill rapidly, automatically and perfectly cooks food at the touch of a button in less than 3 minutes. techniques into the education system and day-to-day busy lives of individuals. Her Bedtime Prompts aims to reprogram the subconscious mind and create a positive bedtime habit.

SAFEQUEEN

SafeQueen

Led by 3 passionate women, SafeQueen is redefining what it means to feel safe one venue at a time. The first of its kind, we take a proactive approach to eradicating the sexual harassment epidemic. We ensure people can choose venues based on safety reviews and reports to avoid venues that are at high risk for sexual harassment.

New to town? International student? Planning a girl's night out? Our platform guides you away from unwanted harassment and into a carefree night.



Positive Power Coaching

Positive Power Coaching - Innovative approach to living a high-vibe life with Manifestation, Mindset, and Mindfulness Coaching.

Pallavi Prasad, the founder of Positive power Coaching is an award-winning coach with more than 15 years of practical experience in manifestation techniques. Post-covid, she followed her true calling to re-introduce the law of attraction and energy manifestation techniques into the education system and day-to-day busy lives of individuals. Her Bedtime Prompts aims to reprogram the subconscious mind and create a positive bedtime habit.



Female Innovator of the year

This award celebrates those women who have blazed a trail and inspired or delivered innovation in their own organisation or for their clients.



Angela Maxwell, Acuwomen

At Acuwomen we re-focus and remodel your business to achieve its potential. We're smart, we're crisp and we're practical. And we work.

Applying decades of expertise to overcome barriers to growth, we deliver unprecedented sales growth, develop new markets and boost our clients' profits.

The Acuwomen team have faced and overcome YOUR business challenges, we've made brave, but ultimately mission critical decisions. We can empower you to do the same. Regardless of sector, size of business or market, we understand the importance of successful delivery and guarantee our results.



Renia Gkountiou,
Aston University

Renia Gkountiou is an Additive Manufacturing Engineer/Technician at Aston University's APF project. Her role involves aiding SMEs in product design, prototyping using additive manufacturing, and adopting new technologies. She manages and maintains the APF lab's 3D printers.

With a passion for design, Industry 4.0, and 3D printing, Renia pursued a Master's in Industrial Digitalization. She gained hands-on experience in various additive manufacturing technologies. Renia, who previously studied Production and Management Engineering in Greece, is also dedicated to inspiring young women to pursue STEM careers, sharing her journey at events like You Will and Innovation Women conferences.



Henrietta Brealey, Birmingham Chamber

The GBCC is a c.£7m turnover independent not-for-profit employing c.80 people. Henrietta sees her role as creating an environment in which colleagues are empowered to innovate, under a shared vision and direction. The Chambers' innovation support, programmes and partnerships have grown significantly under her leadership. Their innovation team will employ 15 people by 2024 and the Chamber are a partner in the Diatomic Innovation accelerator, as well as working with key stakeholders such as universities and Innovate UK on connecting local businesses to innovation support and opportunities.



Clare Hatton,
WMCA

Our ambition is to make sure that all our residents have the skills and qualifications they need to the jobs they want and that our businesses have the talent they need to grow and prosper by employing local people.

In the case of the growing number of tech roles we wanted our residents to be able to change careers and move into work in the vast number of exciting new roles because there would be opportunities for good pay, promotion and flexibility of working patterns. But we knew many residents couldn't afford or had the time to do degrees.

So working with training companies, universities and employers we designed the first digital bootcamps that give people the skills employers are looking for to gain entry level software development, data analytics and coding roles. We've helped thousands of people so far with over 70% moving into work.



Dr Sonia Reynolds,
Zephlinear

Creating a new way to construct fabric is Dr Sonia Reynolds Story. With more than 30 years' experience within cross disciplinary design her revolutionary approach introduces a 4th class of textile beyond woven, knit and nonwoven materials. Her disruptive process has gained numerous accolades including the Transformative Technologies grant, awarded by Innovate UK. This pioneering process introduces the world's first non-interlaced material reshaping the textile landscape. Holding two patents she's also the visionary behind TIOFT (The Institute of FOYSE Technology).



Male Innovator of the year

This award acknowledges the businessmen who have taken up the torch of innovation and forged ahead in their own business or for their clients.



Tom Haworth, B13 Technology

Tom Haworth is the Founder and CEO of B13 Technology, a ground-breaking software development company operating from the heart of Birmingham. Tom's journey in the software development industry has been fuelled by a genuine passion for technology and a relentless pursuit of innovation.

Tom's commitment to innovation, coupled with exceptional customer service, has seen B13 Technology receive numerous industry accolades. Tom firmly believes in the transformative power of technology and its critical role in ensuring business success.

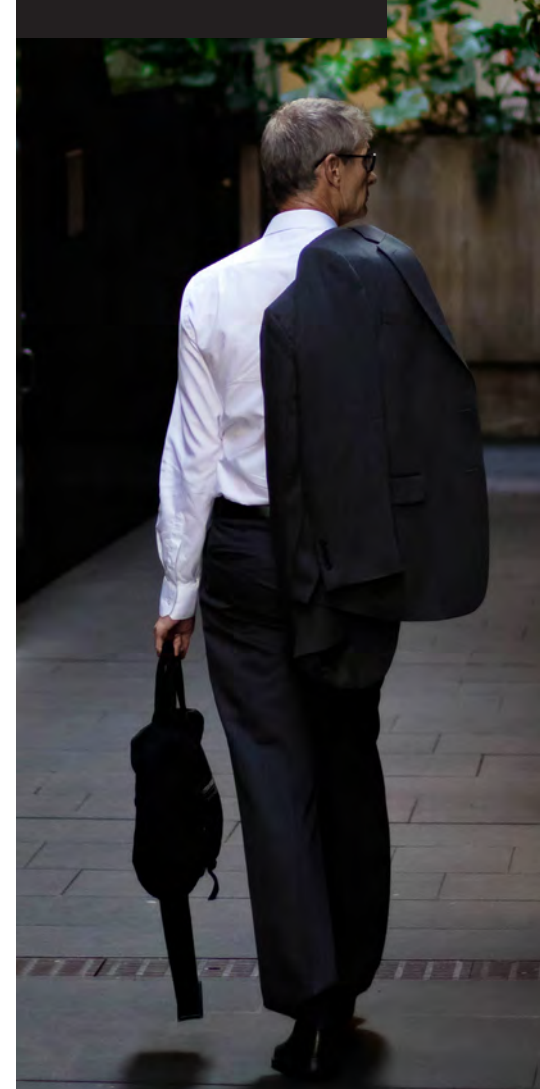


Johnathan Dudley,

Crowe UK

Crowe UK is a leading audit, tax, advisory and risk firm with a national presence to complement our international reach.

We care about our clients and our people, building trusted and long-lasting relationships; creating opportunities to help clients to meet their goals and provide a rewarding experience for our people.



Gino Martini,

PHTA

Professor Gino Martini is CEO of the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator and a passionate advocate of collaboration in life sciences research and development. A former Chief Scientist at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Gino has considerable experience in both academia and industrial pharmacy, and is focused on helping life sciences SMEs and entrepreneurs to commercialise innovations for patient benefit – as well as using PHTA as an anchor institution to help reduce health inequality in its local community and beyond.



Justin Beardsell,

Domino Clamps

While working at an event in Spain, I came up with the idea for a rigging device which would allow anyone to bolt almost anything to a shipping container quickly, safely, and without damaging the container. Drop forged in the UK, we now sell Domino Clamps all over the world in a variety of sectors and regularly add to our line of bolt-on accessories, which provide quick and easy solutions for attaching specific products, devices and equipment to containers.



Matt Jones,

Oxbridge

Oxbridge envisions a world where everyone, regardless of background, circumstance, or location, should have the opportunity to better themselves. At Oxbridge, we're on a mission to improve everyone's education.

We're doing this by creating the World's first online college experience, using clever technology and good old-fashioned teaching skills to improve learning quality, grades, and outcomes.

The results speak for themselves: 69% of our A-level passes achieved a grade A or above. That's better than most colleges in the U.K



Young Innovator of the year

Young people bring a new perspective and new ideas. They can (and do) change the world with ingenious ideas. This award recognises those inspirational under-35s who have shown a flair for innovation whether through growing their own company or supporting their team or clients.



Helene Ntuadi,
Meka Toys

Introducing Helene, a dynamic young innovator and the driving force behind Meka Toys.

With an unwavering belief in the power of investing in others, Helene has propelled Meka to new heights. Her leadership and commitment to the mission have been instrumental in positively impacting children. Beyond her visionary work with Meka Toys, Helene serves as a mentor and role model, inspiring others to follow their passions and make a meaningful difference. Join us in celebrating Helene's remarkable dedication to innovation and her transformative impact on the industry



William Utting, MSDUK

Will's industry work primarily centres around Additive Manufacturing. With 3 years at MTC, he focused on Additive Manufacturing designs for tools. At Aston for 2 years, he's the lead engineer at Advanced Prototyping Facility. Specialising in additive manufacturing, he introduces novel prototyping methods and explores impactful areas like prototyping injection mould tooling. Collaborating with various companies, he's help developed diverse products, from military gear to life-saving medical devices. Will's expertise proved crucial, aiding companies to bring products to market with his design insight. His advocacy for Neurodiversity at Workplace highlights the strengths of neurodivergent team members in workshops.



Louis Geary-Smith,
Mills & Reeve

Louis is an employment lawyer at Mills & Reeve and former brand innovation consultant.

Once deterred from entering the legal profession due to a dyslexia diagnosis, Louis has shown ingenuity and commitment to removing barriers to disabled people entering the profession and performing at their best. Through internal surveys, targeted events and policy changes, Louis has raised awareness and fostered psychological safety across the organisation, reflected in a significant increase in the number of colleagues with workplace adjustments in place.



Shireenah Ingram, Red Lens

I am passionate about the craft of acting and the art of storytelling. I empower clients to hone their craft, build confidence, and develop the tools to succeed in the highly competitive field of pitching, presenting and performing. Innovating Red Lens has meant I could extend my offer of performance coaching to not only aspiring actors but also everyday professionals. Equipping individuals with performance skills I possess and teach them how to integrate those same techniques into their everyday life.



Lucy Gilbert, Kitau Robotics

Lucy Gilbert heads up the Innovation Hub for University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire. Lucy has grown the team to 6 and pioneered lifesaving treatments including a first-ever partnership with Skyfarer to transport vital bloods from the lab to the hospital in under 8 mins. This saves approximately 37 mins on road transport. She has also been involved with the introduction of an AI drug management system to eradicate drug-shortages across the hospital.



Manufacturing Innovation Champion

ORGANISATION

Innovation is often a team activity with others helping companies to make a quantum leap. This award celebrates the funded projects and organisations such as universities, LEPs catapults etc. which support the engineering sector.



Birmingham City University | Help to Grow

BCU's high-calibre academic staff have been working with over 100 businesses helping them to understand how to innovate and grow their business.

Business leaders from all sectors have expressed the value of the strategy and innovation learning received through the Government's Help to Grow: Management initiative. Each company is supported to craft a tailored Growth Action Plan to help drive their business forward.

They learn to recognise what drives productivity in their market, how to innovate their business model, and introduce digitisation strategies to improve operational efficiency, saving time and money



Cast Metal Federation

The Castings Metals Federation, CMF, is the UK Castings Industry Trade Association.

Our members produce near-net-shape, precision finished components & assemblies in all sizes, volumes, cast weights, metal alloys & processes, for UK & international markets, with production facilities in the UK.

Casting is a key part of the circular economy for metals - the industry routinely uses secondary raw materials to help lower final product carbon footprint.

Free help with sourcing the Best of British Casting from the CMF.



Confederation of British Metalforming

CBM (Confederation of British Metalforming) has been nominated for an award for its support to members in addressing challenges and needs in the Metalforming sector. CBM's efforts in identifying opportunities for metalformers to maximize their business efficiency with new and innovative approaches, as well as regularly disseminating results among other members, are commendable.

The nomination for this award is a testament to CBM's dedication and effectiveness in its mission.



Manufacturing Growth Programme

Oxford Innovation Advice facilitates economic prosperity for ambitious businesses by providing trusted and timely advice that enables them to thrive. We create and deliver business support programmes that nurture a culture of innovation to generate sustainable growth.

Since 2009, Oxford Innovation Advice have delivered both national and regional business support programmes that have provided value to more than 33,000 SMEs across England, with an economic impact of more than £1bn in GVA.

Oxford Innovation Advice enables innovation and growth across England.



University of Birmingham | Get into Rail

Get into Rail is a 2-day programme to help SMEs understand the sector, explore innovation and find business opportunities. Its practical approach covers industry standards, technologies, innovation funding, current and future needs, routes to market and technical support to develop and test new product innovation.

We have delivered over 20 cohort groups (200+ companies) across the UK, resulting in 5 successful Innovate UK grant applications, 3 new companies established and 20 businesses diversifying into rail with new products and technologies. Find out more at www.birmingham.ac.uk/railway



Sustainability Innovation Champion

ORGANISATION

Sustainability consists of fulfilling our current needs without compromising the needs of future generations, while ensuring a balance between economic growth, environmental care and social well-being. Harmful processes must be replaced, sustainable energy sources used and a circular economy developed. There are many benefits to sustainability however it does present many challenges. This award recognises and rewards those organisations who help companies to innovate towards a more sustainable future



Tyseley Energy Park

Tyseley Energy Park is delivering low and zero carbon power, transport, heat, waste and recycling solutions for a greener, cleaner, healthier Birmingham.

Working with Birmingham City Council and the University of Birmingham we are developing a clear vision that will transform East Birmingham into Birmingham's Green Energy and Innovation Quarter. Through our collaborations with industry, we are driving industrial growth alongside the green technologies sector, demonstrating how novel energy technologies can form an innovative industrial ecology.



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM
BUSINESS
SCHOOL

University of Birmingham | Centre for Responsible Business

The Centre for Responsible Business, at the University of Birmingham, provides cutting-edge research and practical toolkits that shape and inform both the academic field of responsible business and the practices of companies and decision-makers around the world. Guided by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, our interdisciplinary research team covers everything, from carbon accounting and circular economies to equal parenting and responsible leadership, involving diverse partners in fintech, local and international government, education and the third sector.



University of Derby | Green Entrepreneurs Programme

The Green Entrepreneurs Programme comprises of a £2m grant fund provided by Derbyshire County Council and administered by the University of Derby, which is intended to support organisations that are developing and investing in green energy and carbon reduction schemes. It has been operating since April 2021 and supports a wide range of Derbyshire-based organisations with Demonstrator grants of up to £200k, Small grants of up to £20k, as well as funding towards low carbon and green skills development.



Keele University | Smart Energy Network Demonstrator

Keele University is leading the world on sustainability. Our campus is home to Europe's largest Smart Energy Network Demonstrator, where pioneering green technologies are developed to help cut UK and worldwide carbon emissions, and as 2021 Global Sustainability Institution of the Year we've embedded sustainability across everything we do.

One of the first UK universities to declare a 'climate emergency', we have an ambitious target to be carbon neutral by 2030, and already produce 50% of our own electricity from renewable sources and collaborative R&D.



University of Northampton | Sustainability Hub

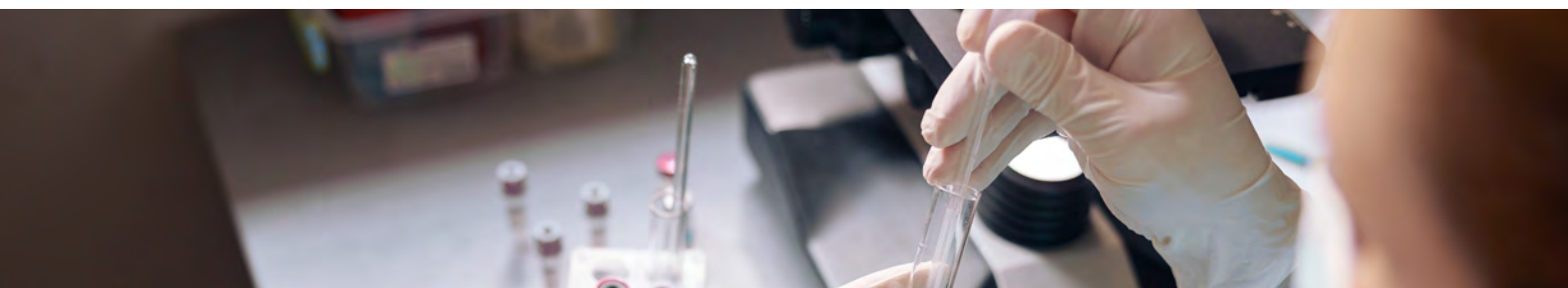
The University of Northampton's Sustainability Summit brought over 40 different stakeholders together to address shared sustainability challenges. The Northampton Sustainability Accord, a framework for action, emerged from the Summit, guiding collaborative efforts to pursue shared sustainability goals.

The Sustainability Local Innovation Partnership Agenda Hub (SLIPAH) was established to coordinate research and knowledge exchange activities to ensuring progress in achieving the goals set out in the Accord. SLIPAH monitors progress through a robust reporting framework and measures the impact of the collaborative efforts being undertaken to achieve the sustainability goals set out in the Accord.



Tech Innovation Champion

ORGANISATION



Companies frequently support other businesses with innovation. This usually comes in the form of advice and support. This often makes a major difference and can help companies to move forward. This award recognises those businesses who have championed innovation in the manufacturing sector.



Advanced Propulsion Centre UK

The Advanced Propulsion Centre's Technology Developer Accelerator Programme (TDAP) supports SMEs, who have an early-stage transport technology concept, to accelerate their route to market, by providing grant funding, technical support, and business mentoring, over a 17-month phased programme.

Through TDAP, over 100 companies have matured their strategy, improved their investor readiness, and developed their technology, accelerating their route-to-market. TDAP companies have gone on to raise over £230 million in private finance.



BetaDen

BetaDen Technology Accelerator is a Worcestershire-based tech accelerator that helps tech entrepreneurs and scale-ups grow their businesses through access to funding, mentoring, and networking. In addition to these core offerings, BetaDen also provides its cohort founders with access to a dedicated co-working office space, workshops, and a platform to pitch directly to investors. BetaDen has been recognized as one of the UK's leading tech accelerators, having supported 170+ jobs and alumni going on to raise millions of pounds in funding.



STEAMHouse

STEAMhouse is a collective. For the business community we provide support and state of the art space to companies of all sizes from sole traders through to large corporations.

We offer production and prototyping facilities for technologists, artists, designers, scientists and innovators. We facilitate workshops for makers, thought leaders and academics. This multi-disciplinary community drives business growth and overcomes commercial and societal challenges through collaborative innovation.



PHTA

The Precision Health Technologies Accelerator (PHTA Ltd) is the University of Birmingham's flagship life sciences research and development facility, located at the new Birmingham Health Innovation Campus.

It offers premium lab, office and development space for SMEs and entrepreneurs who want to collaborate with thought leaders from across Birmingham's clinical-academic life sciences ecosystem, as well as with other innovative companies. PHTA is also home to the Industry Trials Hub, service offering a unique approach to clinical trials.



Wolverhampton University | Spark Innovation Hub

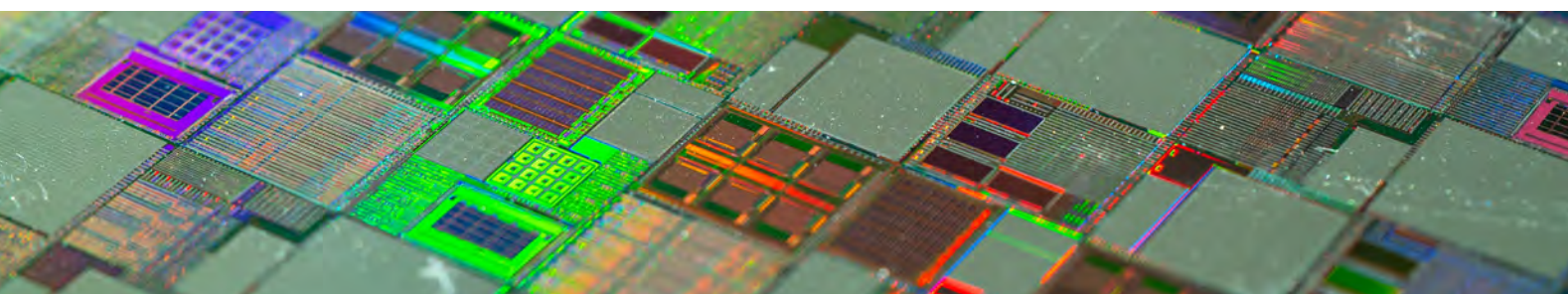
SPARK, the University of Wolverhampton's city based incubator is committed to providing enterprising individuals and teams with the support and resources they need to be successful. Our mission is to be "the home of start-ups" retaining science, creative and tech talent, whilst attracting investment to the region.

SPARK develops new start businesses from initial innovation through strategic growth, providing professional leadership development, research and product development as well as access to connections, mentors and vital start-up resources in partnership with the University of Wolverhampton and our many regional support agencies.



Manufacturing Innovation Champion

BUSINESS



Many businesses support manufacturers with innovation through technical support, professional advice or consultancy. This support can lead to major innovations including new products or new processes that boost in productivity. This award recognises those businesses who have championed innovation in the manufacturing sector



Action Coach

Achieving a perfect 100 Net Promoter Score every year since 2017 for client satisfaction, ActionCOACH Black Country partners with business owners and their teams to help them create brilliant businesses. Whatever your personal and business goals, our team of coaches will help you to achieve the life you deserve. Whether that be more time, more money or both, our personal and business growth systems have helped hundreds of business owners and their teams build stronger, more profitable organisations.



Gallagher

Gallagher

Gallagher Cyber Risk Management practice has gone from strength to strength in the last five years. The journey started with effective networking in the manufacturing sector and began with a laptop and a vision to build a global risk management practice dedicated to serving the requirements of clients in managing their cyber risk exposures. We have developed a broad range of highly effective and affordable services to assist our clients in harnessing the value of technology in their operations.

marchantcain

Marchant Cain

Helping our customers to achieve the products they have imagined. We revel in cross-fertilising ideas from one industry to another, from one application to another and the use of the latest technologies, where they will be the most appropriate, or more tried and tested technologies where they offer the best solution. As a small company we pride ourselves on the breadth of our projects – from bespoke hypercar components, to furniture, to decorative bridge parapets..

Smallfry

Smallfry Industrial Design

Smallfry is a strategy-led Design and Innovation Consultancy, they create products and services that put people first.

Smallfry has been developing products and services for customers both nationally and globally for over 50 years. Using a whole range of skills and techniques, including research, innovation strategy, and marketing methodology, paired with world-class design and engineering knowledge, they have been associated with some of the region's biggest success stories.



WEST

"It's only sustainable when it's inclusive"

WEST (women in engineering, science & technology), a not-for-profit organisation focused on inclusive innovations and outreach. They consult with companies and institutions to create inclusive innovations and workspaces using human-centred-design.

Globally, WEST's pioneering strategies have impacted innovation for the delivery of patent-pending bioenergy technology to developing countries. Locally, their outreach aims to improve the leaky STEM pipeline by increasing minority participation at a young age.



Sustainability Innovation Champion

BUSINESS

Sustainability has become increasingly important to businesses over the past few years. It is a challenge that all businesses must address whether through energy efficiency, waste reduction, re-use or repair. This award recognises those businesses who are helping others to innovate for a more sustainable future.



Carbon Limiting Technologies

Founded in 2006, Carbon Limiting Technologies (CLT) specialises in assisting early-stage clean technology companies commercialise their climate techinnovations, reach market and scale. Through CLT's provision of hands on, bespoke commercialisation support to +500 SMEs, our core portfolio achieved outstanding results, raising over £950m of private funding and increasing valuation from £397m to +£2bn today.



Hill and Smith Plc

We only started our Sustainability journey in 2021. Since then, we have realised multiple achievements, including:

Establishing our full Scope 3 GHG emissions baseline and obtaining 3rd party validation for the data; submitting our proposed science-based targets to SBTi; moving from a 'D' to a 'B' in the annual CDP assessment; establishing an internal Sustainability Forum and annual Sustainability Week; production of Environmental Product Declarations for individual products and establishing a cross-industry Scope 3 emissions 'support group' to share learnings



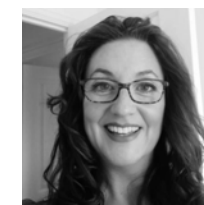
International Synergies

International Synergies Ltd is the world's leading expert on industrial symbiosis, the circular economy in action. Realising waste is a resource in the wrong place, ISL helps its clients think outside the box about resource management, delivering cost and carbon reduction for manufacturing and infrastructure clients. ISL's projects in 50 countries have enabled over 50 million tonnes CO2e saving through its state-of-the-art resource reuse platform SYNERGie®4Matching.



Sustainability West Midlands

Sustainability West Midlands are the independent, not-for-profit sustainability champion for the region. Working with their 170+ cross-sector members they strive to make the West Midlands more sustainable, fairer and greener for all. They have 21 years experience in supporting organisations to demonstrate innovation and leadership, and providing opportunities to collaborate and celebrate success. They have developed an evidence-based Sustainability Roadmap to 2030 and annually monitor the progress of the region against each of its eight priority themes.



Julie Gallagher

It's a pleasure to introduce myself. My name is Julie Gallagher and I've been working in the energy efficiency/renewable technology industry since 2013. Supporting businesses in decarbonising their estates across the UK and Europe. Working in all sectors. Implementing design and carbon reduction strategies. I am incredibly passionate about what I do.vv



Tech Innovation Champion

BUSINESS

Technology companies are innovating all the time. However, they often require support and advice from other businesses to achieve their goals. This award rewards those businesses who have worked hard to support technology companies with innovation.



CyberQ Group

CyberQ Group is a globally recognised leader in cybersecurity, renowned for protecting data, privacy, and reputation. They analyse and understand organisations, crafting tailored cybersecurity journeys to enhance their cyber maturity. Not focused on technology sales, they emphasize the importance of people and processes to maximise security benefits.

Their core values centre around caring for their customers and offering continuous support as a trusted advisor. With the ever-evolving threat landscape, CyberQ Group's expertise becomes indispensable for businesses looking to minimise risk and conduct secure operations in a world of constant threats.



Digital Innovators
Unlocking potential

Digital Innov8ors

Digital Innovators is a pre-apprentice training and Flexi-Job Apprentice Agency that supports young people, aged 14 to 24, to develop their essential skills enabling them to successfully transition from education into employment.

We do this working with employers, local education providers and directly in the community. Our mission, to rebalance the employment landscape by providing young people most at risk of exclusion with an alternative career pathway to employers who are desperate to find talent they can trust.



Docky

DOCK-Y is an AI-tech technology company looking to make micromobility safer, smarter and more secure for riders and the pedestrians. Using cameras and sensors at a fraction of cost and smart algorithms, DOCK-Y can detect hazards to help riders avoid dangerous situations on public roads and prevent accidents.

"Our goal is to make micromobility safe and reliable by bringing state-of-the-art AI driven safety innovations to riders and the public, the likes of which is found in Tesla" says the CEO, Manish Pillay a former engineer at companies like Aston Martin and McLaren.



Intercity Technology

At Intercity, we have developed our Cyber Security Framework based on the National Cyber Security Centre framework for securing critical infrastructure.

This pivotal framework takes a holistic approach to security, simplifying industry and government best practices so that businesses are able to develop and embed a people wide culture, where security becomes a shared responsibility.

Our framework encapsulates technology, skills, operations and training to enable everyone, from board level to entry-level employees, to be on the same security journey.



SuperTech's approach is unique in the UK. By bringing together established business and financial firms, alongside rapidly growing FinTech, PropTech and LawTech organisations in the supercluster,

SuperTech is:

Establishing Birmingham and the region as a centre of next generation services; enabling technology-led evolution; building innovation capacity; and enhancing connectivity between businesses to accelerate ecosystem development.

The continued growth of the sector is not only vital to this region, but the UK as whole. There are prizes to be won at every level: in high value job creation; investment and trade.

Innovation Thought Leader

BUSINESS

Innovation thought leaders support businesses and individuals by providing the finance, facilities, inspirational platforms (e.g. meetings, memberships, platforms etc.) or technology they require to innovate. This award recognises those businesses who have helped others to innovate.



We believe in you

BCRS

BCRS Business Loans is a CDFI run on a non-profit basis. BCRS provides loans to businesses unable to secure funding through mainstream lenders. We believe that SMEs are a force for good; companies use our loans to prosper, create jobs and strengthen the economies of the communities we operate in. We are a relationship-based lender who takes the time to understand our customers. Our experienced team are passionate about supporting businesses so they can access finance with confidence.



Engineers Insight

Engineers Insight is the central, agnostic platform for the manufacturing industry.

Manufacturers need a platform to launch products, give firmware/software updates, announce product end of life, post case studies and reach potential customers, all whilst being given reliable analytics.

Engineers need a single platform to be able to find product releases and documents, to prevent having to search multiple manufacturers websites.

Our mission is to bridge the gap between Manufacturers and Engineers.



FundingHero

FundingHero is an online investment readiness platform and runs an in-person 12-week programme for high growth startups.

Created by Jim Shirley, a Chief Financial Officer who has been part of two scaleup exits, FundingHero teaches founders how to fundraise with the unique 6 Pillars of Fundraising process and CFO levels of financial insight. Through the online platform, in-person accelerator and newly published book - The Startup Fundraising MBA, FundingHeroes mission is to rapidly develop the startup to scaleup ecosystem in the West Midlands.

MILLS & REEVE

Achieve more. Together.

Mills & Reeve

Mills & Reeve uses their Talking ESG podcast to explore and discuss how ESG issues impact their people, clients, and the wider communities they serve. Sharing information in the accessible format of a podcast gives ESG experts and those with lived experiences the platform to push conversations further, helping to increase awareness of the importance of ESG topics, and connect people both internally at Mills & Reeve and in the wider world.



Stay Future Proof

Stay Future Proof is a next-generation strategy and innovation agency.

With a dynamic team of strategists and creatives, we are dedicated to making organizations future proof and stand out through innovative propositions.

We do not only show our clients the urgency to innovate and build sustainable solutions. As an innovation partner, we guide a transformative journey, embedding innovation in the organization's DNA through inspiration tours, co-creation idea development sessions and idea validations in experiment design labs.



Innovation Thought Leader

INDIVIDUAL

There are a few gifted individuals who are able to inspire others to innovate. This could be through the insights they offer, the talks they deliver or the inspirational path they have left others to follow. This important award recognises those individuals who have inspired and supported others with innovation.



Charlotte Bowden,
GBSLEP Growth Hub

As an innovation thought leader Charlotte Bowden is committed to helping SMEs create positive change in a 'safe space'. The aim of the programme is to create jobs, offer a support system and increase profits over the next 2-5 years. Each session is action focussed and enables business leaders to share their experiences and exchange ideas.

Participants are challenged to think differently about operations, products, processes, staff training and wellbeing. This programme contributes to sustainable and inclusive economic growth across the region.



David Webb,
Aston University

David Webb is Professor of Photonics at Aston University, where he develops sensing methods using optical fibres for a wide range of sectors, including Aerospace, Civil Engineering, Medicine and Agritech. He has a particular interest in collaborating with industry and more generally supporting technology innovation in SMEs. Projects he has led over the past few years have directly helped over 200 regional SMEs to innovate, creating about 80 new jobs and contributing several million pounds annually to the regional economy.



Deb Leary,
Chambers of Commerce-
Birmingham

A holiday to Toronto led to the creation of an innovation company spanning 22 years!

From the world's first transparent Stepping Plate for crime scene, to digital forensics i.e. Forensic Image Analyser, Forensic Digital Exchange, Loquitur: ballistic correlation, through to cyber and our Clarifyi platform monitoring the dark web/social media and OSINT providing threat intelligence/reputation management services, we continue to anticipate the market. Success achieved through several Innovate UK Funding bids - currently: LEADS-Engine: Linguistically Enabled Analytic Dark Search Engine with partners Aston University 2022-23.



Henry Carpenter,
Birmingham Business Magazine

Henry Carpenter is the founder and editor of Birmingham Business magazine and Birmingham Business TV.

Both the Birmingham Business magazine and the streamed BBTv platform are editorially led and aim to shine a spotlight on the organisations in the region which are achieving remarkable things.

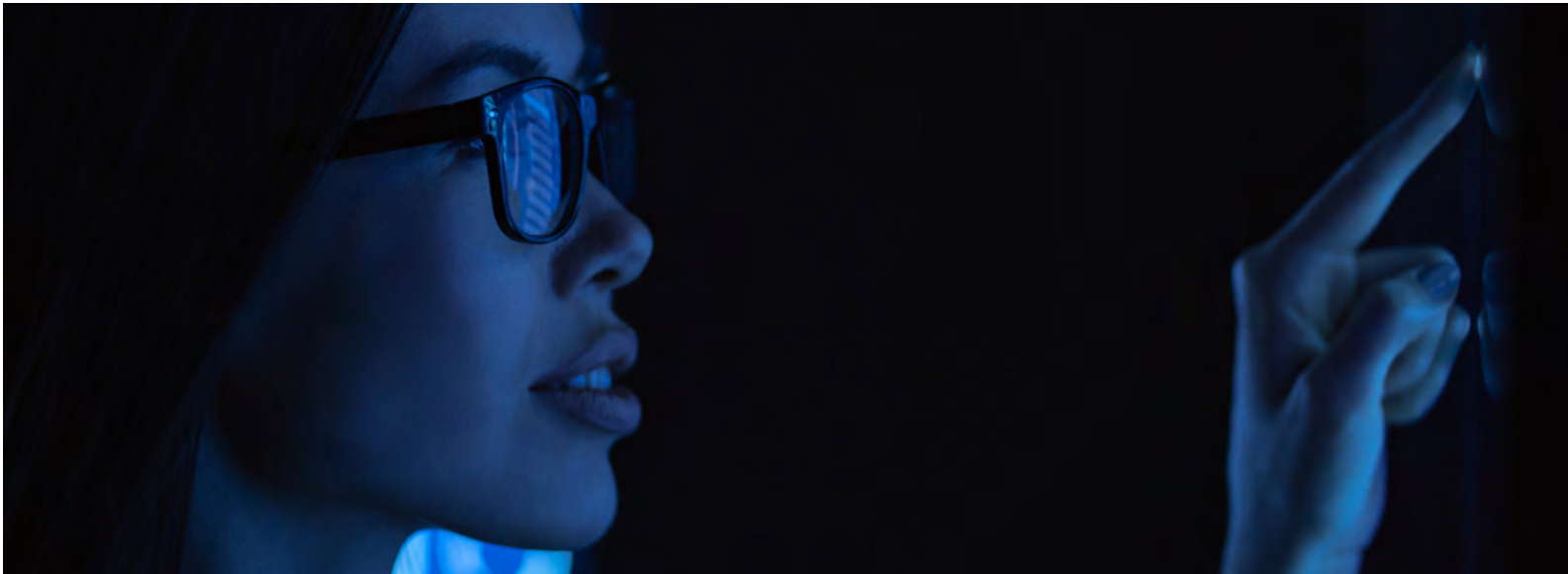
Behind the city's businesses are the people – the innovators, the disruptors, and the visionaries, who lead skilled and committed workforces. We give our readers and viewers a glimpse at what makes these innovators tick and stand out as key contributors to the success of the region's business community.



Pam Waddell,
Innovation Alliance for the West Midlands

Dr Pam Waddell OBE is the founding Director of the Innovation Alliance for the West Midlands, an independent partnership working to stimulate innovation across the West Midlands through building a vibrant innovation ecosystem and catalysing collaborative activity focussed on demand-led innovation.

A recognised authority in innovation as a driver for economic growth and improved public services, Pam has been central to the designed and delivered phases 1 and 2 of the WM Innovation Programme, with WMCA and multiple business-facing partners.



Innovation Thought Leader

ORGANISATION

There are many funded projects and organisations who support companies with innovation through grants and programmes. This award recognises and celebrates their vital contribution.



Aston University, Aston Centre for Growth

Aston Centre for Growth is dedicated to the growth and development of businesses. Located within Aston University, the centre provides a range of programmes and expertise to help businesses thrive in today's competitive landscape.

Through tailored programmes, mentoring, and access to a vast network of industry professionals, Aston Centre for Growth empowers entrepreneurs and business leaders with tools to achieve sustainable growth. The centre plays a vital role in fostering innovation and economic prosperity which creates lasting impact in the business community.



GBS LEP Growth Hub

As an innovation thought leader, GBSLEP Growth Hub is committed to supporting SME businesses with view to creating positive change. We challenge business leaders to think differently about the way they run their organisation; from improving products and processes to staff wellbeing and skills training. Our holistic approach inspires innovation and innovative thinking and encourages businesses to grow at all stages of their entrepreneurial journey. Ultimately, our work is about enabling innovative, sustainable, and inclusive economic growth across the region.



West Midlands Combined Authority

The WMCA is leading innovation support in the West Midlands through:

- The West Midlands Innovation Board, an expert and advisory body informing the work of the Economic Growth Board.
- The £2.9m West Midlands Innovation Programme driving operational innovation support and ecosystem development through a regional innovation team and pilot project programmes.
- The £33m Innovation Accelerator supporting the Healthtech, Cleantech and Cross sector innovation.

WMCA is now unlocking new opportunities for innovation through its 2023 Trialblazing Devolution Deal, which sets out new partnerships and pilots building on the innovation accelerator.



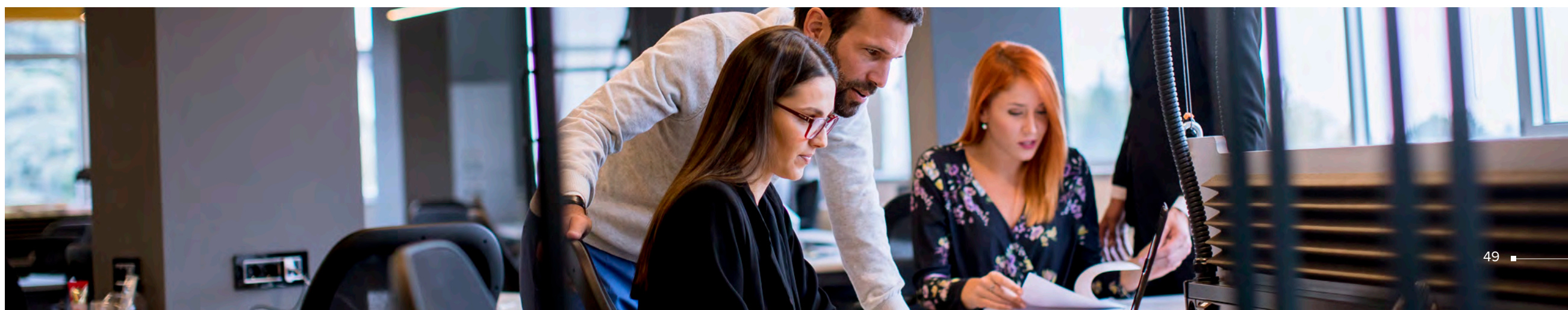
Minority Supplier Development UK (MSDUK)

Minority Supplier Development UK (MSDUK) is the leading supplier diversity advocacy organisation in the UK, championing ethnic minority business in global corporate supply chains. Recognising that ethnic minority entrepreneurs still to this day face various barriers and under-representation, MSDUK provides invaluable support, ensuring sustainable growth and resilience in the long term for these businesses. MSDUK runs several initiatives and programmes for ethnic minority businesses to receive support, including Innovation Challenge, Accelerator, Building Business Leaders of the Future and many more. Through these initiatives, we provide funding, cash prizes, 1-2-1 mentoring, scholarships and more.



WMG SME Group- Warwick University

WMG SME Group champions the growth of our region's manufacturing base. From digitalisation to productivity, net zero, future transport mobility supply chains and next generation skills - The Digital Innovation for Manufacturing (DI4M) scheme contributed to an estimated £220M GVA (report March 2023). Delivering feasibility projects, workshops, events, collaborative research, and development activities that improve productivity, profitability, reducing carbon, waste and de-risk innovation. Businesses have benefited from the latest in manufacturing technologies and thinking, becoming more productive, competitive, and sustainable.



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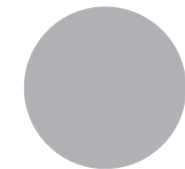


The Directors' Award

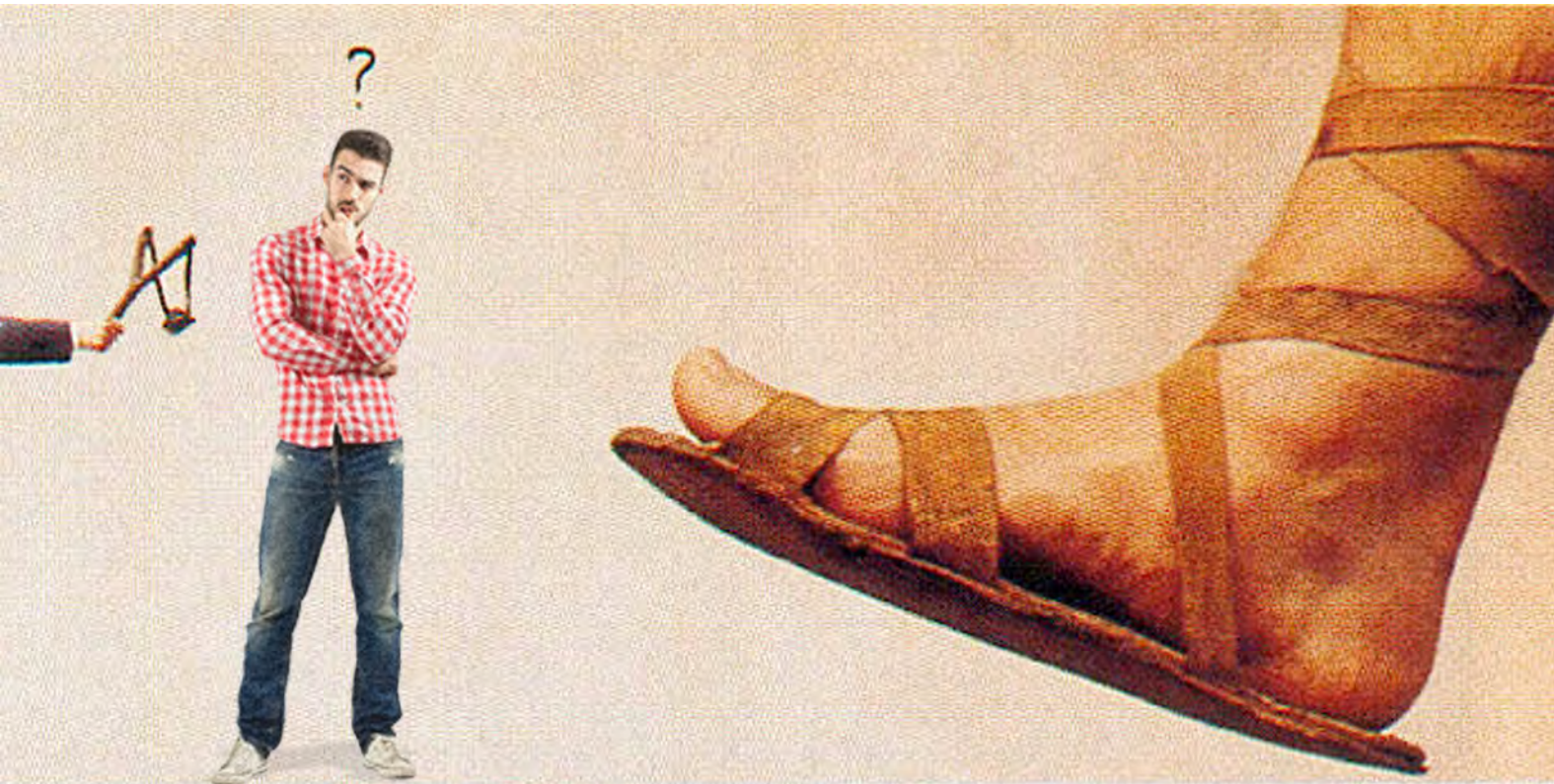
The Technology Supply Chain constantly works with innovative companies, organisations and individuals. This award celebrate the business, organisation or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to innovation.

The Directors' Awards

Ped et porerum qui odis ratesenturi vel ipsunt, simusant et excerunt, que periates eum re quis est repudis eaque voluptatur am fuga. Ut est rerorum,



**Charlie
Blakemore**



**David
& Co.**

Because in business, there's always a Goliath.

Davidand.co

The Judges

Each of the Innovation Awards is judged against five key criteria by an independent panel of three judges. We are delighted to have had the support of these brilliant individuals in deciding the highly commended and winners from our amazing finalists. Once again, the judges were very impressed by the high quality of the finalists and had a difficult choice to make. Many thanks to them all for their hard work.



Andy Wilkinson
MD & Founder
OWB CREATIVE
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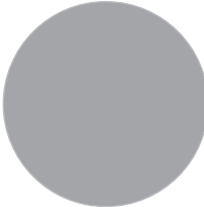
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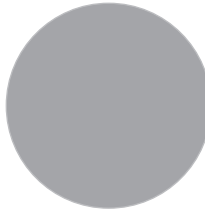
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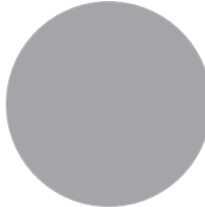
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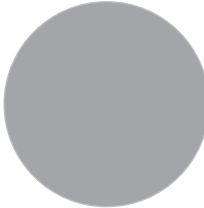
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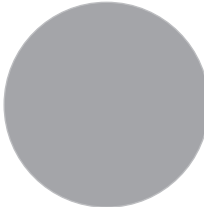
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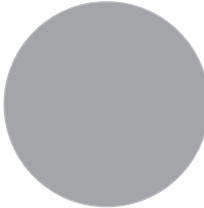
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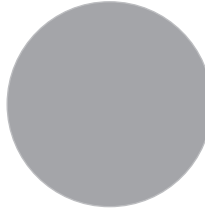
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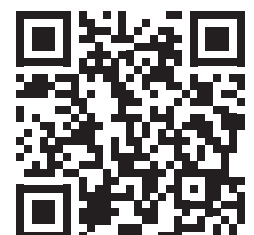


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Innovation Awards/2023



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