



News and Events #6, December 2024

Dear Colleagues

As we enter the final month of the year, it is a great opportunity to reflect on the activities and successes of the cluster over the past year. We recently had our third networking event of the past 12 months in Birmingham at Gowling WLG. It was fantastic to see so many organisations turn up and actively support the growth of the space economy in the region. We have come along way in the since the launch of the cluster in March 2023.

On behalf of Liz and Frank and the rest of the Midlands Space Cluster partnership, we would like to wish you a Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and thank you for your hard work and support.



Please see below for a wrap up of recent regional news, upcoming events and open funding opportunities in the space sector.

Kind regards

The Midlands Space Cluster team

1. **News**

*a. **The website is coming!***

Midlands Space Cluster has commissioned a new website to enhance our presence in the eco-

system. The website is due to go live in the coming months and **we will be including a listing of all Midlands Space Cluster participants, academic and industrial.** To make sure your company is included in the listing, please ensure you have filled in your Capability Assessment form – details [here](#).

b. **[UK space industry recruitment drive lifts off](#)**

[SpaceCareers.uk](#) has received support from the UK Space Agency's 'Space for All' fund to spearhead an initiative named 'UK Space 101', focused on showcasing the accessibility of space jobs to school students, as well as highlighting the need for a diverse range of skills from people currently working outside of the space sector.

c. **Space Enterprise Community**

For up to date news from across the Space ecosystem we recommend you sign up to the [Space Enterprise Community \(SEC\)](#) which is run by the Space Applications Catapult and brings access to all the latest news and events as well as providing opportunities to connect and collaborate.

d. **Space Park Leicester Office Space Available**

A rare opportunity to take up an Office at Space Park Leicester has recently become available. Offering a 70sqm corner office, the opportunity is open to space or space-enabled businesses. To find out more details and take a tour, please contact our Head of Commercial and Innovation, Vinay Patel at: vp118@leicester.ac.uk



e.

2. Events and Networking

a. **Manufacturing Trade Mission to India**

We are pleased share details of a UK Trade Mission to Bengaluru, India, organised by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) in collaboration with the Manufacturing Technologies Association (MTA) and RTC North, UK. This mission, scheduled for 26th - 30th

January 2025, coincides with IMTEX 2025 - the largest Machine Tool and Manufacturing Technology Show in South and South-East Asia. For further information, please contact jayne.shields@businessandtrade.gov.uk

b. **Climate Risk and Resilience Trade Mission to India**

A second trade mission, again organised by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) is available on the 24th - 28th of February 2025. The mission is focused on companies who have significant experience in design delivery, master planning and construction of resilience related projects: from leading-edge initiatives in flood defence to satellite technologies predicting risk. For further information, please contact jayne.shields@businessandtrade.gov.uk

c. **Enabling the in-space economy with Serviceable Spacecraft Workshop**

Organised by the Satellite Applications Catapult and supported by the UK Space Agency as part of the Space Ecosystem Development programme, this workshop will bring together satellite manufacturers, In-Orbit Servicing, Manufacturing and Assembly (ISAM) providers, and suppliers to **tackle the technical and practical aspects of designing spacecraft for in-orbit servicing**. The event will be held at Space Park Leicester on 4th February 2025 from 12:00-17:00. You can register here: <https://spaceenterprise.uk/page/spark-spacecraft-leicester-2025>

d. **Ignite Space 2025**

Ignite is a free-to-attend, two-day conference designed for anyone in or seeking opportunities in the UK space sector. In 2025 we will be hosting Ignite Space here in the Midlands at **the National Space Centre, Leicester** and will have increased involvement to make sure we showcase our region. Please block **February 5th and 6th** out in your diary and we'll be in touch with more news.

e. **Airbus Defence and Space Visit**

We have been invited to take a small cohort of Midlands companies to visit Airbus Defence and Space in Stevenage on February 27th. The day will enable companies who are interested in the sector to learn more about working with a Space Prime in the UK. Only one participant per company will be able to attend. If you are interested in attending please complete this form. <https://forms.office.com/e/ZEsxntRaz> Note that spaces are very limited so a down-selection process will take place. Please only apply if you are definitely available to attend on February 27th

3. Funding and Support Opportunities

a. **SALHUB and SKILLS**

Would your organisation benefit from free training on core concepts of satellite applications? Free expert-led online training for Positioning Navigation & Time (PNT), Earth Observation (EO) & Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and Satellite Communications (SatComms) is now available for registration on the Royal Institute of Navigation (RIN) website: <https://rin.org.uk/page/SALHUBTraining>. The Space Applications Learning Hub (SALHUB) is one of five new projects recently announced by the UK Space Agency (UKSA) to help tackle key skills gaps identified by the recent UK space sector skills survey.

b. **Innovate UK's Global Incubator Programme**

Innovate UK invites companies with expertise in Advanced Manufacturing to participate in a

Global Incubator Programme in Singapore. The programme best suits businesses that already have some traction and sales in the UK that are now looking to innovate their products and services through building global partnerships and collaborations to accelerate their growth and scaling journey. This is fully funded support. Further information can be found here: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7270464811006582785/>

c. **[Access to Finance 2025 is now open for registrations](#)**

After the success of the last five years, the event returns for its sixth year. The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) in collaboration with Oxfordshire Greentech will bring together experts and investors who specialise in helping innovators to flourish. Taking place on Thursday 13 March 2025, at the European Space Agency's Conference Centre, Harwell Campus, the event aims to support you in better understanding the process for obtaining funds from a variety of sources.

d. *Full details on open funding opportunities from the UK Space Agency, the space sector, academic, education and community partners can be found [here](#).*

