

## HOW CAN STFC HELP?

STFC proactively forges links with industry to ensure that skills and technology originally developed to address fundamental research questions are harnessed effectively to provide solutions to industrial challenges.

This has several advantages for industry:

- Access to cutting edge research to benefit your products and services
- Access to STFC's world leading expertise that is beneficial to developing research projects

### **An Example**

*Wireless solutions company Powerwave UK came to ISIS to recreate the firing stage of the ceramic components. Using neutron diffraction, ISIS scientists investigated the process at temperatures higher than the 1000°C at which the ceramic components are usually produced.*

*The research was able to identify the atomic- scale differences between materials processed under identical conditions, but which have different dielectric properties.*

*Testing at ISIS has aided the manufacture of ceramic resonators to the correct specification improving their performance and significantly lowered the costs.*

STFC offers a wide range of scientific services delivered by our facilities including:

- ISIS, a world leading pulsed neutron source
- Diamond Light Source, a synchrotron which produces x-ray infrared and ultra-violet beams of exceptional brightness
- Central Laser Facility, home to Vulcan, the world's most intense laser
- Computational modeling and simulation capabilities
- Space technology laboratories with a vacuum test chamber, vibration facility and satellite guidance and tracking facilities
- Laboratory facilities provide by the Innovations Technology Access Centre (I-TAC)
- Engineering department fitted out for both large and nano-scale engineering, with an equipment loan pool and 'clean room' suites.

**For more details and to apply please contact**

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# Innovation Vouchers Scheme



**Science & Technology  
Facilities Council**

# INNOVATION VOUCHERS SCHEME

## ABOUT THE VOUCHERS

The pilot STFC Innovation Vouchers Scheme, led by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), will see innovation vouchers worth up to £4,000 become available to SMEs.

The aim is to help promote and enable organisations to build on innovation and research capabilities through support in the form of access to STFC's facilities and expertise.

Small and medium sized businesses from all sectors, that have the willingness and potential to collaborate on developing innovative products, processes or services, can be supported by the scheme.

**Applications are being sought now!**

## WHO SHOULD APPLY?



Any SME is able to apply and use STFC technology base and expertise to help with projects that they themselves are involved with.

STFC has expertise in the following sectors:

- Energy
- Environmental
- Healthcare
- Chemical
- Biochemical
- Security
- Advanced Engineering
- Automotive
- Aerospace

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The assistance available would be provided as redeemable vouchers worth up to £4,000 to access STFC facilities, services or expertise. To access the support provided by the scheme, initial approaches must be made directly through STFC.

Our staff will be able to advise you on how STFC can help to optimise your projects, ensuring your organisation gains the most benefit possible from our expertise.

Each individual project can be of any size or value, and is not limited by the £4,000 contribution from the Innovation Voucher Scheme.

The closing date for the first round of this scheme is **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

