

News Update June 2011

Enabling Innovation in the Built Environment

Have you joined our other Members and migrated over to _connect yet?

Click on join this network link to register your details on the _connect Platform and once registered join the Modern Built Environment KTN from the list of available networks.



Welcome

Welcome to the June 2011 update, where we bring you the latest news from across the KTN.



News

ICT for Manufacturing and Construction - New Technology Strategy Board Competition

The Technology Strategy Board will invest up to £7m to fund collaborative R&D projects that will mobilise the talents and inspiration of information and communication technology (ICT) companies to develop new approaches for key challenges in manufacturing and construction. These challenges lie around:

1. deriving and reusing knowledge
2. interoperability across supply chains
3. engaging users in design and operation processes
4. accelerating product and process innovation.

This competition focuses on the **software components** of ICT and the **alignment of ICT systems with people and processes**. The project innovation must be in the software and process change elements to be in scope.

A group has been set up on _connect to help interested parties find potential project partners, [click here](#) to access the group. A briefing and networking event will take place in Manchester on 15 June, visit the [Technology Strategy Board website](#) for more information and to register.

Design for Future Climate

The second round of the Technology Strategy Board's Design for Future Climate competition is now open until 6th July 2011. The competition will award 24 contracts for up to £100k to cover the total costs of developing an adaptation strategy. The 26 projects from the 2010 competition were showcased at an event ran by the MBE KTN in partnership with the Technology Strategy Board and CIBSE on 18 May. Factsheets from these events are available from the [Design for Future Climate Group](#) on _connect along with a discussion forum on how the learning from the 2010 projects can be applied to the current round.

BT's Vehicle for Change to feature at INSITE11, 4-5 Oct

BT's Vehicle for Change, an interactive showcase of future technologies aimed at helping public sector organisations and global businesses to gear up for a changing world will be on show at INSITE11. Visitors to the showcase can explore and interact with innovations and solutions designed for their industry, such as CRM or Unified Communications Solutions. To see this exhibit and the many others that feature at this free two day event, please visit the [INSITE11 website](#).

Do you have a Sustainable Retrofit Innovation that you would like to Showcase at Insite11. There is only 3 weeks left to enter the [Innovation Zone competition](#).



Building Performance Evaluation opportunity for Scottish organisations to find out more

On 20th June 2011 the MBE KTN and Technology Strategy Board will be holding a one day workshop in Glasgow on the current Building Performance Evaluation companies. [More...](#)

Materials for Energy

A competition for funding for materials related projects to scale up or prototype technologies related to energy generation, energy transmission and distribution or energy storage. Products for building applications are in scope but 'materials for insulation' are excluded from applying. Competition opens 6 June, deadline is 3 August, £3m is available for full details and to register to apply [click here](#)

For further information on a whole range of funding sources, please see our [Funding page](#) on the website.



Skanska Supply Chain Green Solution Award 2011

Skanska is seeking green solutions from its current and supply chain partners that can be incorporated in its future projects. The solutions should address challenges including minimising energy consumption, alternative energy and reduced embodied carbon. The competition closes on 29 July 2011. [Click here](#) for further details on how to enter.

The MBE KTN is partnering with Skanska to deliver two Innovation to Mainstream Workshops that will focus on how sustainable technologies can be incorporated into the Skanska Supply Chain. For further information and details on how to get involved, please contact [Peter Ball](#).

Peer to Patent launches in the UK

Minister for Intellectual Property Baroness Wilcox today launched the [Peer to Patent website](#), an innovative new tool which allows experts from the scientific and technology community to view and comment on patent applications.

During the six month pilot up to 200 applications in the computing field will be gradually uploaded for review on the website. [More...](#)

Transport Systems and Integration

The Strategy and Implementation Plan for Technology and Innovation Centres published by the Technology Strategy Board on 26 May identified a candidate list of 10 areas for possible investment in the next phase of its programme. Transport systems and integration is one of the potential candidate areas. We would welcome comments on the outline below and initial proposals for how we should engage. We would particularly welcome comments from businesses in the sector with views on how they would engage with and benefit from the establishment of a TIC in this area. [More...](#)

MBE KTN Supports CIOB Innovation & Research Awards

The MBE KTN is delighted to support the Sustainable Innovation Award in the Chartered Institute of Building Innovation & Research Awards. These awards celebrate the bright minds that will help drive construction in the future and are open to both CIOB and non-CIOB members. [More...](#)

Materials KTN launches SPARK Awards competition

At this year's annual meeting of the Materials KTN on 18 May at the Royal Society and IOM3, the KTN launched a new competition to provide SPARK Awards to companies who find it difficult to access materials research.

SPARK Awards are for strategic projects to access research and knowledge. These are targeted towards companies, particularly SMEs, looking to access research. The Materials KTN operates this scheme with the aim to help UK based companies improve their industrial performance through the increased use of technology for product and process innovation. [More...](#)

Innovation Watch

On 7th June 2011 the MBE KTN's Infrastructure Group held an Innovation & Research showcase, where a number of innovative projects were showcased. These are available from the Infrastructure Working Group.

[Freight transport logistics research and innovation led by Institute for Sustainability](#)

The Institute for Sustainability are involved in a number of INTERREG and FP7 European research projects they are undertaking on transport logistics. One of these projects, named i-Transfer, is looking to highlight innovative transport planning using fjords, estuaries and rivers with the Thames Estuary being looked at for the UK arm of the project. Another project, 'Weastflows', aims to strengthen the development of sustainable connectivity solutions for freight transportation and logistics in North West Europe on an east-west green axis through the use of telematics and ICT solutions.

[Innovative online collaborative Geographical Resource Platform assists in civil contingencies planning](#)

Blackpool Council have been gaining plaudits for their approach to highway asset management after adopting an innovative approach through the use of an online collaborative tool for managing and sharing data on their assets. Gaist have been working with Blackpool Council on the technology that underpins the new platform and highlighted the benefits that such a system could have for emergency planning, infrastructure asset management and civil contingencies planning. The new GRP system has been instrumental in Blackpool introducing better approaches to highway maintenance and management of the network by providing decision makers with the information they need to make more informed choices.

Do you have a Sustainable Retrofit Innovation that you would like to Showcase at Insite11. The MBE KTN is currently looking for entrants for its competition to participate in the Innovation Zone at Insite11. Visit the [Insite11 website](#) for further details.

Forthcoming events

Events from the KTN

Building Performance Evaluation - a further call for funding
20th June 2011, James Watt Conference Centre, East Kilbride

The Technology Strategy Board is investing £8 million in a programme of competitions to provide full funding for companies to evaluate the performance of new and refurbished. This will help the companies improve the case study building and to specify, design, build and operate better buildings in future. [More...](#)

Nano4Energy 2011
28th June 2011, Leeds University

Nano4Energy 2011, sponsored by Nanofactory, aims to raise awareness of materials challenges in renewable energy, explore technology developments in nano-enabled energy, and stimulate networking between technology providers, end-users and investors. [More...](#)

Other Events

Sustainable factory operations
15-16th June 2011, Institute for Manufacturing, Cambridge

Organisations are under pressure. Not only do they face internal demands to be cost effective and more productive, but they face external calls to improve their environmental efficiency from government and society as a whole.

This course responds to these drivers by providing practical tools which will enable you to reduce resource consumption and deliver significant savings for your organisation. [More...](#)

Smart Homes to Smart Cities
16th June 2011, 1 VS Conference Centre, London

This event, jointly run by the ESP & ICT KTN, will be the fourth of this series of events, is aimed at assisting the Built Environment sector to capitalise on the opportunities presented by the expanding digital universe or Internet of Things. [More...](#)

Steps to Success in the Framework Programme
16th June 2011, University of Sheffield

Unlike other Framework events, which deal with targeted issues, this event deals with the different stages of involvement in FP7 - from initial awareness, through proposal writing to project management. We want to ensure that all attendees gain knowledge and understanding on how to build a successful Framework project. [More...](#)

Advanced Structures Technical Group Meeting - Modern Iconic Buildings of London
16th June 2011, TWI Conference Centre, Cambridge

This seminar discusses in detail the design; fabrication and erection of 'The Shard' and, in general, the concept and engineering of 'Leadenhall Street' and 'Bishopsgate Tower'. [More...](#)

Renewable energy and green building seminar on opportunities in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan
24th June 2011, BIS Conference Centre, London

UK Trade & Investment is running a seminar to inform UK renewable energy and green building businesses of the opportunities that exist in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. This event seeks to develop the low carbon relationship between the UK and these important markets, which will incorporate a trade mission to the region later this year. [More...](#)

New Business and the Low Carbon Economy
30th June 2011, iCon Environmental Innovation Centre, Daventry

Featuring leading players in the low carbon sector, this event will highlight business opportunities for green companies and show how you can succeed and adapt in a frequently shifting marketplace. [More...](#)

Focus on aid-funded business: sustainable infrastructure
1st July 2011, Westminster Conference Centre, London

This event is focused on 'Sustainable Infrastructure', incorporating opportunities in the design, redesign, rehabilitation and the reuse or optimisation of existing infrastructure whilst maximising renewable resources and minimising environmental impacts. [More...](#)

Which Way to Work?
1st July 2011, Institute of Physics, London

The way we work is influenced by our surroundings and vice versa. This event will give practical information on users in buildings, including a case study of O2's new Head Office in Slough. Delegate discount available to BSRIA members. [More...](#)

31st Cement and Concrete Science Conference
12-13th September 2011, London

These are fundamentally important materials to modern society that are increasingly being used in a range of unconventional and innovative applications. The conference will provide an opportunity to discuss issues related to cement and concrete science. [More...](#)

Strategic Manufacturing Awards 2011
18th October 2011, Germany

The Strategic Manufacturing Awards celebrate excellence in all aspects of manufacturing including: lean, innovation, operational excellence and sustainability.

- Gain recognition at the Strategic Manufacturing Awards Ceremony
- Demonstrate your innovative projects to your peers

[More...](#)

World Sustainable Building Conference
18-21st October 2011, Finland

The World Sustainable Building Conference addresses new opportunities for:

- improving quality of life
- mitigating effects of climate change
- and making new business

[More...](#)



Recent events

Showcase of infrastructure systems research & innovation, 7th June 2011

The presentations from this event are now available to download from the [Infrastructure Working Group](#) on [_connect](#).

MBE KTN on Twitter now!

Do you want to know what Deborah Pullen, the leader of the MBEKTN team is up to? What events we are organising and attend or what articles and innovative products we come across?

Follow the [MBEKTN on Twitter](#) and find out!

Please feel free to pass this information onto your colleagues. If they would like to join the MBE KTN, please direct them to our [website](#) to become a Member and to be added to our distribution list for future e-alerts, e-newsletters and much more.....

If you're having trouble with our website please contact [Elena Poletayeva](#)

The Modern Built Environment Knowledge Transfer Network

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