



The Catalyst – breaking new ground

Work is underway on 'The Catalyst' – York's exciting new business space for creative, IT, digital and media start-ups. The new building work marks a significant step in the University of York's £500 million campus expansion designed to help grow new businesses and support the city's economy.

The new business space – known as The Catalyst – will be leased and managed by York Science Park Limited and is part of a major project, supported by the European Regional Development Fund and managed by Science City York, via Yorkshire Forward.

The campus expansion at Heslington East, including the iconic Sir Ron Cooke Hub and The Catalyst, will help to keep York at the forefront in the continuing promotion of economic development in connection with leading universities of the world.

Occupiers of the new building will benefit from access to the teaching and research experience of the University's academic departments, including Computer Science, Law & Management and the new Department of Theatre, Film & Television.



Tracey Smith, General Manager York Science Park with Jon Meacock, Heslington East Project Director and Andy Gurnell, Delivery Services Manager, Science City York on The Catalyst site

Due for completion in Autumn, The Catalyst will feature 2,755 square metres of flexible, modern, fully serviced and managed office space; it offers all-inclusive, short-term agreements on a range of space. Meeting spaces will be available for both internal and external organisations to use, and the building is set to achieve a BREEAM rating, which measures a building's environmental performance, of 'very good'.



Artist's impression

Tracey Smith, General Manager of York Science Park said: "The Catalyst will further enhance York Science Park's reputation as a leading location for science and technology based business and will provide the perfect space for early stage companies in the creative, IT, digital and media sectors to innovate and grow. Its unique location will enable new businesses in these sectors to draw on the wealth of knowledge and expertise available in the University, and give them a real head start on their road to commercial success."

For further information on office space, please contact Erica Thorpe on inov1@york.ac.uk or 01904 435100

Project sponsor



Project Part-Financed by the European Union European Regional Development Fund

Supported by



The Region's Development Agency

Finance Yorkshire – a fund to boost businesses

A new £90 million fund, Finance Yorkshire, has been set up to provide businesses across the Yorkshire and Humber region with funding to start and grow.



From left to right: James Newman, Chairman of Finance Yorkshire; Rosie Winterton, Minister for Regional Economic Development & Coordination; Jonathan Dixon acting Chief Executive at Finance Yorkshire; and Terry Hodgkinson, Chair of Yorkshire Forward.

The Fund will provide seedcorn, loan and equity investments ranging from £15k to £2m, to help SMEs raise the funding they need alongside investment from the commercial market.

Created using investment from Yorkshire Forward, ERDF from the European Union, and the European Investment Bank, the Fund will provide, for the first time, region wide access to finance for all qualifying businesses.

The funding falls into three categories: Seedcorn Finance of £15k – £780k for new and early stage technology and knowledge based businesses, Business Loans of £15k – £50k for start-up and early stage businesses (rising to £150k for established businesses) and finally Equity Linked Finance of £100k - £2m.

To find out if your business is eligible check the Finance Yorkshire website www.finance-yorkshire.com



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For further information contact:

York Science Park Ltd, Innovation Centre, Innovation Way, Heslington, York YO10 5DG

Tel 01904 435100 email inov1@york.ac.uk

www.yorksciencepark.co.uk



Park life who's who and who's new...

This is what some of York Science Park's residents have been doing in the last few months. For more information on YSPL's residents, go to www.yorksciencepark.co.uk.



Left to right: Peter Iddon, Mike Raxworthy, Lorenzo Pio Serino

Neotherix awarded new funding

Science Park tenant Neotherix, which is working on the development of a special post surgery wound repair material, has been awarded new funding from the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) to conduct pre-clinical testing and assess the regulatory pathway for entry into the European and US markets. Neotherix, along with 30 other companies, will receive a share of £2.8 million in funding which will be allocated by the TSB to help bring such products to the market. Dr Zahid Latif, TSB lead technologist in Medicines and Healthcare said "We are delighted to support the Neotherix feasibility study and we look forward to seeing the results of their exciting work."

www.neotherix.com



Gary Rowbotham, Program Manager at techmesh

techmesh at the Park

techmesh, the new organisation working to create a vibrant, supportive and self funding network for IT & Telecoms in Yorkshire and Humberside held its first event in York at York Science Park on 25 March. It was a great success, with numerous organisations and professionals from across the region gathered together to meet, share knowledge and exchange ideas.

Gary Rowbotham, Program Manager at techmesh, which is supported by Yorkshire Forward, commented: "York Science Park was a great venue, there was a great buzz about the whole event. I am confident we will be holding many more such events at York Science Park in the future as part of our drive to help create a commercial ecosystem where innovative, ambitious companies can thrive and form profitable relationships across the region."

www.techmesh.org



Ideas make a big difference

Innovation Centre resident, Ideas Group has been engaged by Medtronic, a global leader in cardiac rhythm technology based in Watford, to develop a major communications campaign. The work involves the creation of a coordinated series of internal and external engagement activities aimed at reaffirming the Medtronic brand and highlighting the company's investment in R&D, \$1,355,000 pa. Through a very challenging commercial climate, Medtronic have continued to invest in effective marketing, and Ideas Group's core offer, to 'improve performance through creative communication', fits the bill perfectly.

www.ideasgroup-uk.com

NNFCC Champion Anaerobic Digestion

The National Non-Food Crops Centre (NNFCC) is playing a key role in the drive to improve the take up in the UK of anaerobic digestion (AD), now one of the fastest growing sources of renewable energy in Europe. AD is a process whereby almost any biomass, from manure to municipal waste is converted into heat and power, cutting carbon emissions, providing renewable energy and helping waste mitigation. The NNFCC is championing AD through a new web portal which they have produced for the AD community with the backing of DECC and Defra.

www.biogas-info.co.uk



Dot Com Imaging to become Beyond Colour

Dot Com Imaging are rebranding to become Beyond Colour. The move reflects the growth of the company's creative marketing services in recent years, including design, print solutions, photography studio, brand development and copywriting as well as the continued growth of the existing internet based side of their business. The sub-product brands such as Photo-Mojo, website*turbine and website*starter will all now reside under the Beyond Colour brand.

www.beyondcolour.com

New arrivals

The Park is now home to 75 companies ranging from small start-ups to large international organisations employing over 1300 people. Recent arrivals include:

Centre for Low Carbon Futures

The new Yorkshire-based Centre for Low Carbon Futures (CLCF) is a collaboration, formed by the Universities of Hull, Leeds Sheffield and York to harness the internationally recognised research strengths of Yorkshire's Universities, and deliver knowledge and solutions designed to optimise carbon efficiency within businesses and communities. Led by Director Jon Price, CLCF aims to become an internationally recognised evidence based demonstration centre for low carbon solutions, focusing on Sustainable Energy, Supply Chain and the Food and Agriculture sector. CLCF is creating multi-disciplined teams working across traditional boundaries thereby shaping a positive response to climate change, in order to influence policy and improve business competitiveness.

CLCF will identify and promote innovations in technologies and processes that will lead to the emergence of a competitive, resilient, low carbon economy, which for business will become apparent in carbon accounting, technology demonstration and training centres that will aid the process of knowledge transfer. In this manner CLCF can create a research and training environment of international quality to respond to the most challenging energy and environmental questions, that will facilitate the translation of the region's leading edge applied research for benefit of the UK economy.

www.lowcarbonfutures.org



From left to right: Professor Brian Cantor, Vice-Chancellor University of York, The Right Hon. Rosie Winterton MP, Regional Minister for Yorkshire, The Right Hon. John Prescott MP, Former Deputy Prime Minister, The Right Hon. Hugh Bayley MP, City of York, Baron Crathorne, Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire)

Barron's Electrical

Electrical consultancy contractor, Barron's Electrical was founded in 2009, with a team that draws on 15 years of electrical installation experience within the commercial and industrial sector, seven years within consultancy of LV electrical design and three years of project management of multi-discipline projects. They project manage, design and install all aspects of LV electrical installation within commercial, industrial and light industrial installations and are a 'one-stop-shop' for all your electrical services needs.

www.barronselectrical.co.uk



York Science Park

For further information contact:
York Science Park Ltd, Innovation Centre, Innovation Way, Heslington, York YO10 5DG
Tel 01904 435100 email inov1@york.ac.uk
www.yorksciencepark.co.uk



York Science Park Business Support

With interactive workshops ranging from 'Lean Thinking' to 'Neuro Linguistic Programming in Business', the business support programme launched by York Science Park earlier this year is well underway.

The programme of events will run throughout 2010 and beyond, providing invaluable information from expert speakers as well as the chance for attendees to network with like-minded entrepreneurs.

Upcoming events include a workshop led by Denison Till, which will provide information on 'Common contract pitfalls and Protecting intangible assets' providing an opportunity to update attendees on a wide range of issues affecting commercial contracts. Partners in Training will hold a workshop in May aimed at empowering leadership and motivating team members.

"The business support programme is a great idea. The 'Lean Thinking' event that I attended was very useful. It was a great chance to meet other companies from the Park; the whole event was very informative and I hope to try 'lean thinking' for some of the projects I am involved with," said Helen Outhwaite, Knowledge Manager at Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory.

For more information on the free workshops please contact Carla Witcombe on inov1@york.ac.uk or 01904 435100.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

26
MAY

York Science Park – Business Support Programme

Partners in Training: Meetings & Teamwork

Conference Suite, Innovation Centre, YSP

inov1@york.ac.uk or tel 01904 435100

Venturefest
Yorkshire 2010
York Science Park's best yet!

Venturefest Yorkshire was to be a great success with many more enquires at the York Science Park stand than ever before.

Inside story: Christopher Parker

Designer for Ideas Group

Chris joined Ideas Group in 2006. Since then he's been involved in projects for clients including the MoD, Hallmark Cards, Ideal Standard, Medtronic and The University of York.



Ideas Group, based in the Innovation Centre since its inception, is a creative communications company working with organisations to improve their performance by developing and managing effective business and communication strategies.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

No day is ever the same, every client, and every job is unique. A typical campaign for any one client could involve a range of creative disciplines from branding to printed materials, web design, through to interiors and exhibitions. I always strive to create a strong central idea that will engage with the audience. Great ideas are at the heart of everything we do, and coming up with those ideas and seeing them succeed for our clients is certainly one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

Do you have any advice for companies looking to commission a creative agency?

At the heart of every great project is a great client. Clear objectives are essential, and a well-written brief and a realistic budget are crucial. This will help any organisation get the most from any communications campaign.

How do you see your industry changing over the coming years?

The way companies communicate with their customers is constantly evolving. We're seeing a revolutionary shift from traditional marketing to communicating through web-based solutions. Social networking is playing a bigger part in the way companies interact with their audience and we are constantly reviewing the latest advancements in technology and digital media.

Tell us a bit about yourself

The last few of years have been the most eventful for me so far. In 2007 I moved to Dunnington with my fiancée Victoria, the following year we got married in the village church followed by a fantastic honeymoon to Bali and Australia. Last year I celebrated my 30th birthday and this year we're expecting our first child, due in August, which we're both really excited about.

www.ideasgroup-uk.com

Park Central... 3 years on!

The community within York Science Park continues to go from strength to strength, thanks in part due to Park Central, the extension of the Innovation Centre designed to facilitate networking and business collaboration. It is now three years since the project was given the green light and just over two years since its completion.

Tracey Smith, General Manager of York Science Park, said: "It is safe to say that Park Central's impact on daily life in the Park has been huge. The café and exhibition space have provided an important boost for the wider community within the city and have enabled projects such as 'car sharing' and social events on the Park to flourish."





Science City York Launches Business Mentor Service

The Business Mentor Service is a three year programme of intensive assistance targeting key business personnel within knowledge-based SMEs. Available at no cost to the individual or business, the service will provide a high level tailored, coaching and mentoring programme focussed on improving competitiveness in innovative and high growth companies across key industry sectors.

Funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programme in Yorkshire and The Humber, the aim is to help businesses overcome challenges such as commercialising innovation, bridging the gap between research and business and overcoming critical barriers to growth.

By mentoring individuals across 130 SMEs over three years, the team at Science City York aim to help improve business capability, create 160 new jobs and boost productivity of the region's hi-tech industries by £5.6M.

"The core aim of the new service will be to enable a higher return on investment and improved market position for the companies involved," explains Andy Gurnell, Delivery Services Manager. "Science City York is also able to actively foster links between researchers, institutions and industry to increase knowledge exchange and the commercialisation of research."

The service is flexible and ranges from short-term assistance to a longer-term relationship where the Business Mentor is effectively 'embedded' in the business. It is also closely aligned with the activities of Business Link Yorkshire ensuring a complete network of support.



Left to right: Norman Slater; Helen Malton; Nick Dunlop-Jones

Businesses across a wide range of sectors are eligible including construction, logistics, creative & digital, advanced engineering & materials, food & drink, healthcare, environmental technologies, sports, financial and business services.

For more information contact Science City York on 01904 870040 or email mentors@scy.co.uk



Project sponsor



Who's who

Erica Thorpe, Marketing Manager, York Science Park



Erica Thorpe joined York Science Park as Marketing Manager in March. Erica brings with her a wealth of marketing knowledge gained during ten years within the Financial Sector. In her last role, Erica headed up marketing and investor relations for boutique investment manager BMS Finance Asset Management.

In her role as Marketing Manager at York Science Park Ltd, Erica is responsible for the recruitment of new businesses for the high specification office and laboratory accommodation within the Innovation, Bio & IT centres, Enterprise House, and The Catalyst on the new university campus at Heslington East.

Commenting on her new role, Erica said:

"This is a very exciting time to be working as part of the York Science Park team. The development of the new incubation space on the Heslington East site will present some great business opportunities over the next few years. In particular I am looking forward to opening the doors of The Catalyst in the Autumn to some of the regions most inspirational and creative companies. I am really enjoying getting to know our residents and York's business community and have been very impressed by the quality of the support structure and business networks within the city. Going forward this is something I'd really like to capitalise on, not only to bring new occupiers to the Park, but also help them to work together and reap the rewards."

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

06
MAY

York Cares

Innovation Centre, YSP

www.yorkcares.co.uk

06
MAY

Creative York MP3 Soundclash

Pulse, 25 Fossgate, York

kat.hetherington@scy.co.uk

08-09
MAY

Enterprise Show

York Racecourse

www.theenterpriseshow.com

11
MAY

YABA Investment Forum

Pinsent Masons, Leeds

charlotte@yaba.org.uk

13
MAY

Enterprise Europe Yorkshire (EEY)

Basics of Innovation – An Interactive Seminar
Innovation Centre, YSP

indea.heppel@rtcnorth.co.uk

20
MAY

York Professionals Dinner

Dante Suite, Ebor Stand,
York Racecourse

hjackson@york-professionals.co.uk

11
JUNE

Yorkshire International Business Convention 2010

Yorkshire Events Centre, Harrogate

www.yibc.biz