50
YEARS

UKRI

Innovate UK

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

The first KTP?

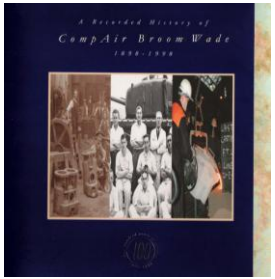
1969 GEC Switchgear created through merger

1975 KTP with Salford University

1989 Became GEC Alsthom Switchgear Ltd
2004 Became Areva Switchgear Ltd
2011 Became Alstom Grid Switchgear Ltd
2014 business went into receivership

CompAir with Aston University

The origins of CompAir can be traced back to two British companies, Holman and BroomWade, with over 200 years of experience.



“In the early 1970's industry was becoming more energy conscious and [the business] realised it needed a more efficient product … and so the V-Compact was born.

It comprised four basic machines from 100 to 300 cfm which were high speed, two stage air-cooled compressors with a high degree of component interchangeability to which oil free and single stage variants were added later. Many thousands of these compressors have been built and sold al over the world.

By 1975 the CompAir Group was the largest manufacturer of air compressors and pneumatic equipment in the UK. The group employed more than 8,000 people, ran seven manufacturing locations in the UK. World sales for 1975 totalled £86m, with pre-tax profit of £7.3m”

A CompAir cyclon compressor from the 1980's - the original variable speed compressor

The business is still trading and is now owned by Ingersoll Rand.

https://ircxprd01-iroraclecloud.cec.ocp.oraclecloud.com/content/published/api/v1.1/assets/CONT4CE5D686D8BF4A49B1D76CBB61BB1735/native?channelToken=061c843f4a4b4f129d5b004b4e89b1e9#xd_co_f=M2JkZDU0NjQtZjM4ZS00MjUxLWI3NGMtYTZlMjg4MzEwYTE4~

PLATTS LTD
PROTECTIVE FINISHES

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Platts was established in 1967 and back then we provided traditional spray paint services to agricultural and commercial vehicle customers.

We like to think the growth in the years that followed came for two reasons. One, from our ability to handle plant, vehicles and components that were too large for regular paint-shops, and two, from our willingness to innovate, expand our knowledge and develop our skills.

Where it all began

- We believe that Professor Derek Saunders started TCS
- He studied physics at Imperial College during the war years
- After graduating in 1945 he pursued his interest in the emerging field of Polymer Physics eventually heading the Department of Materials at the (then) Cranfield Institute of Technology.
- His over-arching ambition to bring together research and industry lead to him serving as Director of the Teaching Company Scheme until his retirement in 1988.

KTP ‘heads of’ 1975-2025

- Professor Derek Saunders (1975 – 1988)
- Dr John Monniot (1988 - 1990)
- Professor Stephen Humble (1990 -1991)
- Dr Ed Robson (1991 – 2004)
- Dr Debbie Buckley-Golder (2004 – 2013)
- Dr Ian Brotherson (2013 – 2017)
- Dr Andy Treen (2017-2018)
- Mr Richard Lamb (2018 – present)

Impact of KTP

- KTP has supported over 14,000 projects since 1975.
- Approximately 11,000 of these have been with SMEs.
- From 2010 to 2020, Innovate UK invested £200m in 2,000 projects, adding £2.3bn to the economy.
- KTP continues to fund over 300 new partnerships each year, with innovative businesses across the UK

What have we learned in the last 50 years?

- Don’t mess with your KTP team, invest in it
- Be outward looking, invite people in
- Listen
- Deliver what the business needs
- Support your academics

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

50 years of KTP

[illegible]

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

50 YEARS

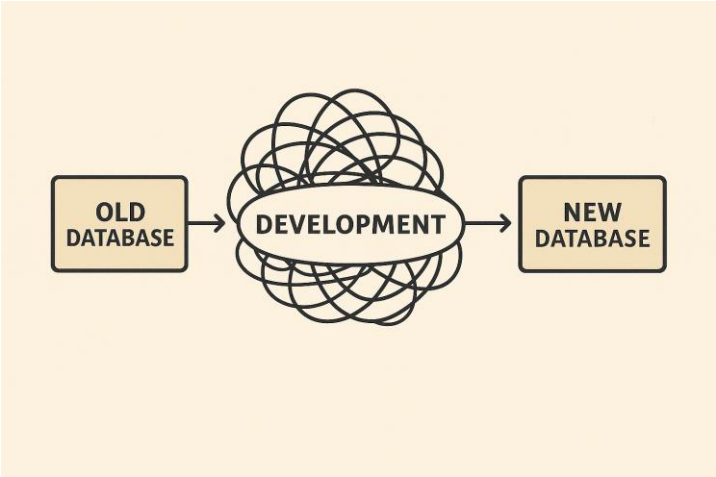
KTP today

- Thank you
- Loosing 3rd sector and public sector is a blow
  - They added significantly to the richness of KTP
  - But are not compatible with IUKs new remit which is business focused
  - We will seek other funding to allow us to continue delivery

Public Sector IT projects

Transition to new database

- Not easy
- Not finished
- Issues exist but being dealt with
- Give it a chance
- Do what you did so well when we transitioned to IFS – provide us with evidence via regional and national forums

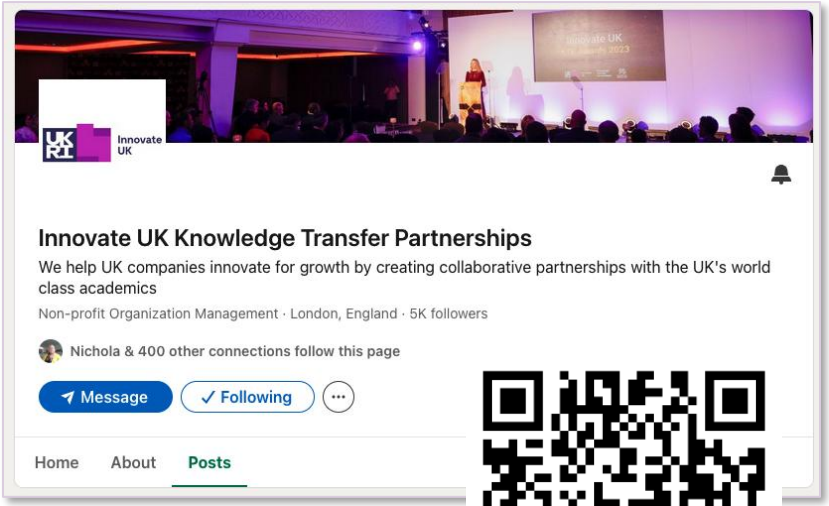


This year

- Round 4 now open
- New handbooks for Supervisors, Associates and KTP Managers
- New systems up and running
- Expanded KTA numbers
- New training contract – won by Ashorne Hill
- 50th Awards and Conference delivered
- Over celebratory 30 events attended

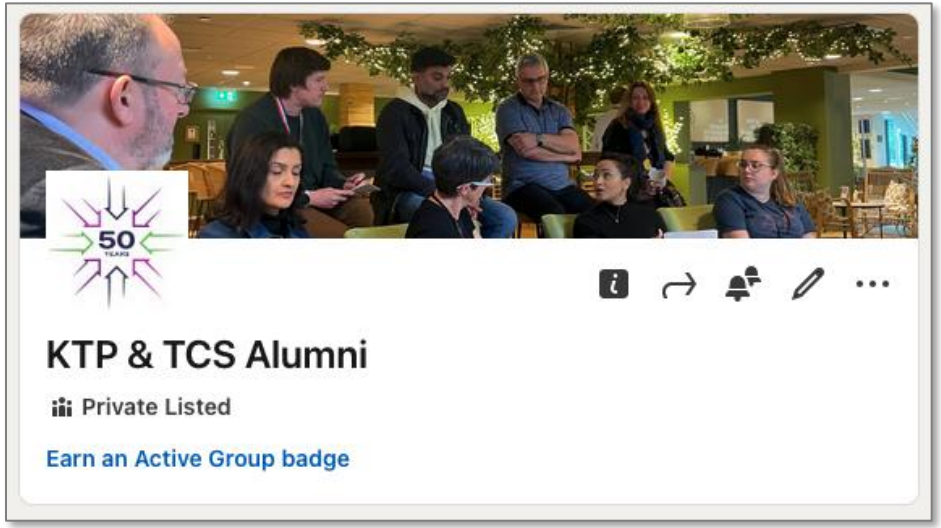
Improved coms

- Linked in page - done
- New Coms manager – in place
- New email sign up – coming soon
- Email system – upgrade in progress
- More targeted, more timely coms



https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ktn-ktp

Alumni Group



https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13181391/

Please update your Linked In profile, so your link to TCS / KTP is clear

Ongoing change

- To the many people that have left or are leaving KTP
- Your service and contribution is gratefully acknowledged
- Because of you, KTP is stronger than ever
- Please join the Alumni

Mohan Ahad

Right now

- Another period of adjustment
  - Knowledge bases – recruitment, funding, reorganisation
  - New strategies for Innovate UK and UKRI
  - Looking for business partnerships

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£50m

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Right now

833
Projects

656
Live

177
GOLs

181 Finished Early / Did not start

All Applications 2024/25

Cost to IUK	£56,749,310 £149,734
Total Project Costs	£90,006,686 £237,485
Business contribution to project costs	£33,275,376 £87,750
Additional Business Contribution	£89,147,381 £235,217

87% Success rate

Micro	Small	Medium	Large
17	164	94	104
4%	43%	24%	29%

All Applications 2024/25

Region by business	Total	%
South East	37	10%
South West	36	10%
London	39	10%
East of England	31	8%
Yorkshire and the Humber	30	8%
North West	29	8%
East Midlands	26	7%
Northern Ireland	24	6%
Scotland	22	6%
North East	22	6%
West Midlands	21	6%
Wales	11	3%
Post Code not recognised	45	12%
Generated with MS CoPilot	373	100%

Project length average

28.5

Months

Final Reporting

- 47 • Stage 1 - KB / Associate / Business
- 66 • Stage 2 - KTA
- 70 • Stage 3 - Assessment

168 grades issued

Grade A: Outstanding	**Grade B:** Very Good	**Grade C:** Good	**Grade D:** Satisfactory	**Grade E:** Unsatisfactory
• 20%	• 47%	• 14%	• 6%	• 12%
• 21% / 25%	• 23% / 34%	• 14% / 19%	• 6% / 7%	• 15% / 10%

1	The University of Essex	58	21	University of Ulster	12	41	Bournemouth University	7
2	Aston University	40	22	Staffordshire University	11	42	Brunel University London	7
3	Manchester Metropolitan University	29	23	University of Bristol	11	43	Edge Hill University	7
4	Birmingham City University	24	24	Heriot-Watt University	10	44	The University of Liverpool	7
5	Queen's University Belfast	24	25	The University of Reading	10	45	University of Aberdeen	7
6	University of Strathclyde	21	26	University of Newcastle upon Tyne	10	46	University of the West of England	7
7	Leeds Beckett University	20	27	Cranfield University	9	47	Liverpool John Moores University	6
8	The University of Huddersfield	19	28	The University of Bath	9	48	Queen Mary University of London	6
9	The University of Leeds	19	29	The University of Leicester	9	49	The University of Hull	6
10	University of the West of Scotland	19	30	The University of Surrey	9	50	University of Derby	6
11	Loughborough University	18	31	University of Portsmouth	9	51	University of Lincoln	6
12	Teesside University	18	32	University of Salford	9	52	University of Southampton	6
13	University of Nottingham	17	33	University Of Warwick	9	53	University of Sunderland	6
14	Nottingham Trent University	15	34	Cardiff University	8	54	Cardiff Metropolitan University	5
15	The University of Manchester	15	35	Coventry University	8	55	De Montfort University	5
16	City, University of London	13	36	Sheffield Hallam University	8	56	Edinburgh Napier University	5
17	University College London	13	37	The University of Birmingham	8	57	Glasgow Caledonian University	5
18	Robert Gordon University	12	38	University of Edinburgh	8	58	London South Bank University	5
19	The University of Sheffield	12	39	University of Northumbria	8	59	University of Glasgow	5
20	University of Hertfordshire	12	40	Anglia Ruskin University	7	60	University of Stirling	5

61	University of the Highlands and Islands	5
62	University of York	5
63	Oxford Brookes University	4
64	University of Cambridge	4
65	The University of Warwick	4
66	University of Dundee	4
67	University of Durham	4
68	University of Exeter	4
69	University of Plymouth	4
70	King's College London	3
71	London Metropolitan University	3
72	Royal Holloway	3
73	The University of East Anglia	3
74	The University of Kent	3
75	University of Brighton	3
76	University of Gloucestershire	3
77	University of Keele	3
78	Abertay University	2
79	Bangor University	2
80	Imperial College	2
81	Kingston University	2
82	North West Regional College	2
83	The Open University	2
84	The University of Lancaster	2
85	University of Bath	2
86	University of Lancashire	2
87	University of East London	2
88	University of Northampton	2
89	University of Sussex	2
90	Aberystwyth University	1
91	Arts University Bournemouth	1
92	Bishop Grosseteste University	1
93	Buckinghamshire New University	1
94	Connected Places Catapult	1
95	Earlham Institute	1
96	Harper Adams University	1
97	Heriot Watt University	1
98	Leeds Trinity University	1
99	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	1
100	National Composites Centre	1
101	Roehampton University	1
102	South West College	1
103	Southern Regional College	1
104	SOAS	1
105	The University of Bradford	1
106	The University of Chichester	1
107	The University of Greater Manchester	1
108	The University of West London	1
109	University College of Estate Management	1
110	University of Greenwich	1
111	University of Oxford	1
112	University of South Wales	1
113	University of Suffolk	1
114	University of Surrey	1
115	University of Wales Trinity Saint David	1
116	University of Wolverhampton	1
		832

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Next year

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£50m

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Next year

- Fix Final Reporting & improvements to post award processes
- KTP budget remain solid at £50m
- Capability funding?
- Adjustment to new strategic landscape – Both at IUK, UKRI and across knowledge bases
- Update to application from, hopefully fewer questions!
- Get Teams up and running for KTP managers

Next year

- New focus on claims and financial forecasts, speeding up the claim process and improving our internal forecasting
- AKT 5 - FE Pilot – 3 or 6 month projects
- AKT starting as a regular programme?
- More support for businesses with high growth potential?
- 5 competition rounds (plus AKT ?)
- Associates' forum and greater business representation within programme

Competition Schedule

2025/26				KTP R4 25_26	KTP R5 25_26
Opens				Monday, 27 Octoberr2025	Monday, 1 December 2025
Close (11am)				Wednesday, 26 November 2025	Wednesday, 4 February 2026
Funders panel				Thursday, 29 January 2026	Thursday, 26 March 2026
Weeks between closes				9	8
2026/27	**KTP R1 26_27**	**KTP R2 26_27**	**KTP R3 26_27**	**KTP R4 26_27**	**KTP R5 26_27**
Opens	Monday, 2 February 2026	Monday, 6 April 2026	Monday, 29 June 2026	Monday, 21 September 2026	Monday, 23 November 2026
Close (11am)	Wednesday, 1 April 2026	Wednesday, 24 June 2026	Wednesday, 16 September 2026	Wednesday, 18 November 2026	Wednesday, 3 February 2027
Funders panel	Thursday, 4 June 2026	Thursday, 20 August 2026	Thursday, 12 November 2026	Thursday, 21 January 2027	Thursday, 25 March 2027
Weeks between closes	8	11	11	8	10
2027/28	**KTP R1 27_28**				
Opens	Monday, 8 February 2027				
Close (11am)	Wednesday, 21 April 2027				
Funders panel	Thursday, 17 June 2027				
Weeks between closes	10				

All dates subject to change

International

AAKTP projects coming to an end

International Strategy 2026 and beyond

- Securing External Funding for Programs
- Supporting the Development of National KTP Models

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KTP Programme Managers

Unofficial Awards, 2025

Best cupcake

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UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Best cupcake

Most staged picture and Biggest screen

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50 YEARS

Kingston University London

Most Staged Photo & Biggest screen

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Best Food at a KTP event

Best Food at a KTP event

Food Innopolis (FI-Accelerator) / National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Thailand

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Best Dressed

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Best dressed

Me!!

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST of SCOTLAND
UWS

HOUSTON
EST. 1909
KILTMAKERS

Best Mascot

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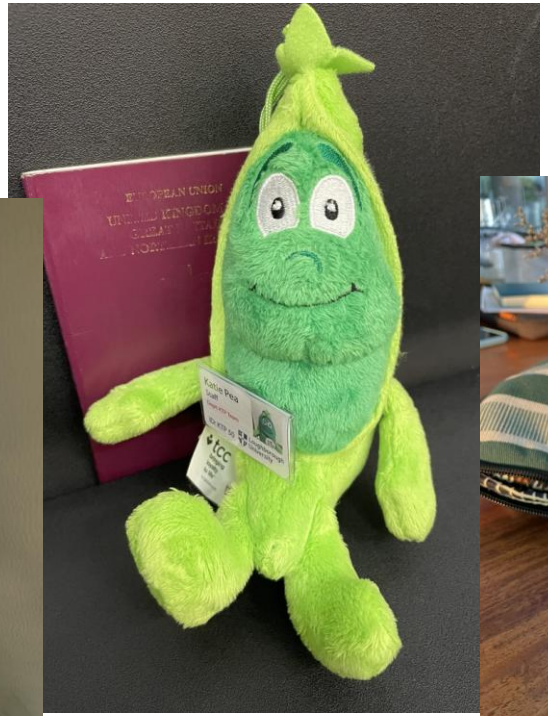
Best Mascot

Loughborough University

Katy Peas



Best 50th celebration (so far)

Innovate UK | Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Best 50th Celebration (so far)

BIRMINGHAM CITY University

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Best Team

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Best Team

All of you!

(…and I wouldn’t have it any other way!)

I ♥ KTP
Faculty of Media, Science & Technology
Loughborough University
Innovate & Elevate
KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP
ashornehill
We welcome all types of feedback! Let us know what you thought of your time with us.
Amazing staff!
So grateful to Tiffany, Bev, Grace and Dan for all their hard work!! ♡
KTP Bootcamp
02/10/24

50 years

Why does KTP work so well?

KTP mindset

In a permanent state of evolution

The future will not be what we imagine…

Kickstart Talented People

Keep Taking Part

Keep Talking Please

50
YEARS

UKRI

Innovate UK

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships