



Science and Technology

Co-location Facilities for Businesses



Our award winning buildings enable global high-tech, knowledge intensive business to co-locate onto the Lancaster University campus and work alongside our cutting-edge researchers in a unique collaborative environment. Businesses can also join and network with our established local, regional, national and international business communities and tap into a broad range of expertise, support, training and resources on site.

Our Offices

We provide office space and hot-desk space for up to 60 businesses via two dedicated co-location buildings on the campus, the Lancaster Environment Centre and InfoLab21, which won the national British Council for Offices Best Corporate Workplace prize - the first time that a university building won the award.

Benefits of Co-Location

Renting offices and integrating all or part of a business onto the campus enables faster business growth by providing easier access to our research, knowledge, events, training, and facilities.

Each business is allocated a relationship manager to match the business to the appropriate skills and facilities they need. The majority of our companies are currently from the environmental or

ICT sectors and we are interested in expanding this to form research partnerships across all sectors.

We welcome international companies and work closely with the United Kingdom Trade & Investment (UKTI), the Government organisation that helps businesses locate in the UK and grow internationally.

Access Facilities

Due to our size and diversity we can offer research and development facilities beyond what most Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) might have available. Through working with our business partnerships managers organisations are able to access these facilities in a variety of ways from one off usages to regular bookings.

Examples include:

- Extensive, state-of-the-art research laboratories
- Computer aided engineering and analysis software
- Rapid Manufacturing facilities, accessible as a technology demonstrator, learning resource and operational prototyping and manufacturing facility
- A 50-100th scale wave tank, tidal flume and low head hydro test rig
- New £4m class 100 and class 1000 clean room equipped with state of the art equipment including devices for molecular beam epitaxy, plasma etching, e-lithography, microresonators, optical coherence tomography



The REACH Centre Ltd Team

Our Location

Lancaster University's parkland campus is situated on the outskirts of the beautiful and historic city of Lancaster, Lancashire. Lancashire is in the Northwest of England and has a large and diverse economy consisting of a strong mix of over 35,000 registered companies representing all sectors of the UK economy. Lancaster University is a truly global University, with over 12,000 students from over 120 countries. Our community extends far beyond the Northwest with research, teaching and student exchange partnerships with leading universities and institutions in 24 countries around the world from China to Brazil.

Case study: The REACH Centre Ltd

The REACH Centre Ltd was set up specifically to support registrants in meeting their duties under REACH (legislation governing the use and production of chemicals) and to effectively manage and comply with current and future chemical legislation. The REACH Centre is one of the leading global providers of REACH services to industry and is active in various market sectors. The business is based in one of the co-location facilities at Lancaster University.

"The REACH Centre would not have been formed without the strategic support provided by the Lancaster Environment Centre and would not be sustainable without the resources made available through locating on the campus. There are tremendous benefits from locating at the university over other business parks both in terms of the quality of resources the building has to offer but more importantly, in terms of the quality of people which we are able to work with, enabling us to utilise the specialist knowledge that the university can provide." Jonathan Lutwyche, CEO of The REACH Centre Ltd.

The REACH Centre has expanded, both in terms of personnel and the business itself, with help from graduate recruitment and support from the ICT theme. Adam Rowntree, Systems Co-ordinator, graduated from Lancaster University in 2005 with a degree in Computer Science. "At the start of 2007, I took a job working as a university graduate consultant supporting companies here in the North West. One of the companies we provided support to was The REACH Centre and it was here that I first met Jonathan, one of the directors.

I began working for them in June 2008 and my first job was to completely overhaul the web presence to make it more modern and up to date, improving initial contact with many of our customers."

The REACH Centre has also received support from Lancaster University's Management School via two MBA 'New Venture Challenge' projects and the LEAD programme. The MBA projects involved small companies teaming up with a group of experienced Lancaster MBA students aiming to identify and drive forward a new stream of business.

The LEAD programme concentrates on both the business itself and the personal development of the owner/manager, providing a framework to increase profitability, diversify and grow the business.

"The LEAD programme has been the catalyst for us to re-define the way we operate as a business. I have learnt a great deal from other members of the cohort enabling me to reflect upon some key challenges within our business. As a result The REACH Centre has re-structured its operations to allow for further expansion." Jonathan Lutwyche, The REACH Centre Ltd.

www.thereachcentre.com

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