



Monthly News Update – December 2007

Welcome to the December edition of the KIT-OUT the Park Newsletter, which this month looks at the range of projects currently being undertaken by Glasgow Caledonian University's scientists and researchers with local companies.

The KIT-OUT the Park Project has now been active for just over 6 months, so it seems to be a good time to look back and see what types of projects we are currently working with.

Through our initial survey work, awareness raising activities and referrals from our key project partners (SE Dunbartonshire and SE Forth Valley), KIT-OUT the Park is currently working with around 16 companies in the tourism or tourism related sectors.

These 16 projects are with companies from the following sectors;

Four projects are assisting companies in the IT & Communications field; 5 are looking at Sustainable Construction and/or the use of Renewable Technologies; one company is looking at innovative food packaging ideas and 5 projects are developing or testing new

products for our clients

Through their involvement with KIT-OUT the Park, all of these companies have been able to obtain ongoing access to a wide range of Glasgow Caledonian University's scientists, researchers and technical experts.

In around half of the projects developed so far, the companies are eligible for and will be assisted in applying for substantial Government innovation support grants.

These companies are benefiting from the free support available through KIT-OUT the Park. If you have an innovative project idea or feel your business could benefit from the adoption of new, better technology, contact our Project Team (details below).

We will be pleased to discuss your ideas in confidence.

New Face in the KIT-OUT Team

The KIT-OUT the Park Project Team is back up to full strength with the recruitment of a new Project Officer.

Audrey Meikle took up her post on 19th November and will be working closely with the rest of the project team to develop technology transfer projects between companies and GCU scientists and researchers.

Audrey brings over 10 years experience of working with small and medium sized companies in a business advisory context and is an accredited Premier Adviser.

With a particular interest in sustainable development, renewable technologies and the impact of environmental legislation, Audrey has just completed her MRes Integrated Pollution, Prevention and Control at Strathclyde University.

Project Funders



Visit our new look website at

www.kit-out.org

for the latest case studies and project news.

Workshops coming soon!

From our current projects list, it is noticeable that there are comparatively few projects from the food providing/supplying sectors. As a result, KIT-OUT the Park, in conjunction with its main project partners in Scottish Enterprise, is planning to hold a series of workshops/seminars early in the New Year, specifically aimed at businesses involved in the food sector and serving the tourism market in and around

the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park area. So if your businesses feels that it could improve its competitiveness or lower its costs, through the use of technology, (e.g. for waste disposal) or you want to test a new product/ingredient, we would like to hear from you. More details will be available in our January newsletter so watch this space!

Project Manager – Derek Gallaher

derek.gallaher@gcal.ac.uk

0141 331 8447

Project Officer – Abu-Zar Aziz

abu-zar.aziz@gcal.ac.uk

0141 331 8482

Project Officer - Audrey Meikle

audrey.meikle@gcal.ac.uk

0141 331 8458