



Manufacturing support for companies of all sizes in West Wales and the Valleys: ASTUTE - Advanced SusTainable ManUfacturing Technologies

Are you facing a technology challenge in your business or idea?

ASTUTE is a support service for the manufacturing industry in the Welsh convergence area whereby all of the Universities in Wales have come together to see if they can offer a solution. This could be helping a company to develop a more sustainable product, helping to reduce manufacturing costs or cutting time to market.

Astute is part-funded by the EU's Convergence European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.

Mark Gaddes, senior project officer at Glyndŵr University's Advanced Composite Research Centre which is part of the programme said "There is no specific cash requirement for organisations – just a time and materials commitment to work with us to develop potential new processes and products which could increase their competitiveness. Our input could be through consultancy or as part of a collaborative project."

ASTUTE business support includes:

- Specialist business development advice and assistance
- Collaborative Research and Development

Advantages of working with ASTUTE include:

- Access to world class technical and business expertise
- Access to state-of-the-art facilities
- Rapid project approval and implementation
- Retention of commercial IP developed through joint working

ASTUTE can provide expertise in the following areas:

- Product design and innovation
- Computational modelling
- Software
- Process route
- Destructive testing
- Recycling technology
- Logistics/supply chain management
- Lean manufacturing
- Rapid prototyping
- Electronics/photonics
- Materials
- Process modelling
- Non-destructive testing
- Robotics
- Additive manufacturing

“The ultimate aim is to increase the competitiveness of SMEs, helping to bring wealth and job creation to the region.”

The £27million project will target the aerospace and automotive sectors, as well as other high technology manufacturing companies to create sustainable, higher value goods and services and bring them to a global market.

For further information contact Mark Gaddes at the Advanced Composite Training and Development Centre, Glyndŵr University Email: m.gaddes@glyndwr.ac.uk Tel: 01978 293978

Notes to editors

The £3.2bn Structural Funds programmes 2007-2013 in Wales include the Convergence programmes for West Wales and the Valleys (the successor to Objective 1), and the Regional Competitiveness and Employment programmes for East Wales. The programmes are delivered through the Welsh Assembly Government and are aimed at creating employment opportunities and boosting economic growth.