Innovate UK

Results of Competition: infocus - Women in Innovation 2016
Competition Code: 1606_SP_OPCOM_WII

Total available funding for this competition is £1.145M from Innovate UK

Note: These proposals have succeeded in the assessment stage of this competition. All are subject to grant offer and conditions being met.

Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Gettrik Ltd	Drone's mapping software for vertical structure inspection	£50,000	£50,000

Project description - provided by applicants

Drones are the future of large structure inspection. Where manual inspection takes weeks, even months and costs hundreds of thousands of pounds, a drone can do the same job for a fraction of the time and money, and more efficiently. However, drones can only assist in collecting images, leaving surveyors hundreds of photos with no clear idea of the location of a damaged part that has been identified. Inspectors need to trace the flight path to find the location of each photo manually. Our software will help automate this process.
My team and I aim to develop a software that creates a single fully mapped image, from photos or videos taken by the drone. This allow for inspectors to quickly navigate through large files from an overview image. Inspectors can zoom in and select areas to pull out the original photos, making it faster and easier to see areas of damage and estimate severity.
Our target markets are Drone surveyors and Inspectors that work with aerial footages in 2 main industries - Wind turbine inspection and Building inspection.

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
HEROTECH8 Ltd	Herotech8 - accessible, reliable and enabling technologies in agritech and humanitarian	£49,840	£49,840
Project description - provided by applicants			
HEROTECH8 is a start-up company based at Cranfield University Business Incubation Centre (CUBIC) in Bedfordshire in enabling robotics. Our aim is to bring drone technology to people and places that either would not have the resources, energy infrastructure or technical know-how to reliably and safely operate existing drone platforms. Following our recent successes in obtaining pre-seed funds from The Bettany Centre for Entrepreneurship, CEO Siobhan Gardiner aims to finish constructing prototypes and run the first trials in the UK in early 2017. Furthermore, HEROTECH8 aims to use the success of this competition to leverage future applications to Innovate UK and form new partnerships in agritech and humanitarian logistics.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
DPS Designs Ltd	New technique to create a step change in chocolate manufacturing	£49,988	£49,988

Project description - provided by applicants

The chocolate industry has been moulding chocolate using the same core techniques for over 100 years. Whilst there have been massive advances in technology for accuracy and speed of production, and some advances in moulding itself, these core techniques have stayed remarkably constant. There are however limitations to these. The innovation I aim to develop with funding will enable a small British business to create a game-changing technology and manufecturing process which can challenge the status quo that has been maintained by the dominant mould manufactuters in Germany and the Netherlands. The innovation will have applications for other markets but is essentially about mass producing chocolate in a way that can only currently be done at the boutique level which is only accessible to a handful of people. So my aim is to both fly the flag for women in engineering, and for innovation from the UK, whilst at the same time creating a technique which will enable boutique-grade chocolate to be affordable for everyday people.

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Interactive Scientific Ltd	Community driven science education and research tool by Interactive Scientific	£49,800	£49,800
Project description - provided by applicants			
Many of the major challenges and opportunities that face our 21st century world are a result of the dynamic behaviour of invisible things – atoms and molecules. It is impossible for humans to directly see or interact at the nano-scale due to the size and speed of nano scale particles. A step change is required in the way we, as a whole society, engage with global challenges, such as climate change mitigation, combatting antimicrobial resistance and supplying clean water access for all. My vision is to create a new scientifc ecosystem based around a software platform (Nano Simbox) that is designed (visually, socially and experientially) in a way that changes the way people think about and interact with scientific challenges that affect the world around them. Sharing of user generated content is a vital part of the vision and ultimately the platform will be a place that can be used by cutting edge researchers to crowd source scientific solutions.During this project we will carry out crucial design and development work to provide a mechanism for user generated content in Nano Simbox, so a user can define the scientific world that they want to explore and then step into simulations that are underpinned by real science. The applications of this product are in education and scientific research.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
AppAttic Ltd	Crowdsourcing Medical Trials of Mobile Apps	£49,840	£49,840
Project description - provided by applicants			
We are proposing a revolutionary means of clinically trialing low-risk medical apps. The solution will use the power of the Internet, existing commercial app stores and innovative mobile technology to enable any medical app to crowdsource a clinical trial online. The aim is to reduce the significant costs, resources and time required to run a standard Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) during the early stages of research and development of innovative new app technologies. The trial will provide insight into user adoption, safety, and efficacy. This would free company resources to focus on innovation of the technology and a grand vision of healthcare that focuses on maintaining good health through engagement, early intervention, behaviour change, and prevention to reduce the time spent suffering from ill health.			

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Dem Dx Ltd	Lorin Gresser - Women in Innovation 2016	£49,800	£49,800
Project description - provided by applicants			
Dem Dx offers a transparent, step by step, decision making process for healthcare professionals to use in training and when caring for patients. Dem Dx guides the user from the presenting symptoms through to a diagnosis, enabling medical students and clinicians to take a more structured and reasoned approach to clinical care, avoiding unnecessary investigations, treatment and missed diagnoses. It combines the power of unique medical algorithms, which are verified by artificial intelligence and decades of clinical experience to provide a transparent, clear reasoning process based on clinical signs, symptoms, and historical evidence. This grant will enable us to the test the effectiveness of Dem Dx, at the point of care, across different clinical settings. Dem Dx would partner with select medical centres (GP practices, A&E centres and a wider community of users), collecting empirical feedback on the innovation. This will also allow us to further develop the efficacy and accuracy of the algorithms that underpin the diagnostic pathway, integrating region specific suggestions based on real time prevalence of conditions.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
CN Bio Innovations Ltd	Manufacturing Human Organs-on-Chips towards non-animal alternatives in drug discovery and research	£49,596	£49,596
Project description - provided by applicants			
Development of credible non-animal technologies is necessary before well-established animal tests can be eliminated from drug discovery, chemicals testing and basic research. Miniature devices that replicate human organ function in the laboratory, so-called "Organs-on-Chips", have already been used in the race to discover new medicines to treat viral infections and lung disease. Organs-on-Chips hold promise for broader applications where they would provide superior alternatives to animal tests by better predicting the human response to new drugs. This project will overcome important barriers to the more widespread adoption of Organs-on-Chips in research laboratories around the world by using innovative manufacturing techniques to produce low cost devices that are highly intuitive to use. The availability of Organs-on-Chips to a broader community of scientists will accelerate research in this important field, leading to less animal testing and making participation in clinical trials much safer.			

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Aurora Medical Ltd	OrthoTrack	£48,380	£48,380
Project description - provided by applicants			
Although total hip replacement is one of the most successful operations performed worldwide, with 1.6 million hip operations recorded in developed countries in 2011, there is a 5-10% risk of revision at 10 years. It is known that patients' specificities affect the risk of long term failure. With the increase in longevity and obesity, the orthopaedic market will continue to grow, with a drive to reduce implant and operation costs to relieve the burden on health services. We aim to translate results from our extensive R&D experience in orthopaedic products performance into a cost effective service offering for the patients benefit, in the shortest timescales possible. A novel, low cost assessment methodology that can be used in a standard clinical setting will be offered to the surgeon/patient team during pre-clinical assessment, to identify patients that may have an increased long term failure risk. In the longer term, this may also be used post-operatively to optimise re-education/recovery.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
TrueInvivo Ltd	TrueInvivo solution to improve cancer survival rate	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
Current radiotherapy treatments for cancer use beams of radiation to kill the actual tumour cells and try to miss the healthy surrounding cells and organs. However, the beams are invisible and very often damage does occur. Many radiotherapy centres use a pattern of tiny beams to closely match the shape of the target tumour but it is hugely difficult to know what radiation hits where. In a typical treatment of 20 sessions clinicians want to know quickly if the radiation is hitting anything it should not. TrueInvivo has developed small re-useable strings of tiny calibrated silica beads to measure received radiation. The silica beads can be used on the skin but crucially, as they are safe inert material, they can be used inside the body much closer to the tumour. After treatment, the beads can be scanned by an automated reader to provide accurate measurements of the levels and spread of the received radiation. The patient's treatment can then be adjusted accordingly. With our bead arrays and automated readers, radiotherapy teams worldwide will be able to adjust treatments or environments far more quickly, will be able to reduce damage to potentially millions of people and will be able to extend countless more lives.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
SOMI Trailers Ltd	SOMI Trailers replace 4 truck journeys by 3, potentially saving 10,000 truck journeys a day in UK alone	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
SOMI Trailers can deliver the same goods in 3 journeys instead of 4. With this proposal to take this trailer to the market, the grant would give potential customers opportunity to use the trailer in live operations and the chance to demonstrate to and encourage other women to follow and fulfill their potential in manufacturing and engineering. The extra capacity is achieved by utilising the empty space underneath, adding 8 pallets of goods (31%) to the load but without being longer or higher than a standard trailer, making SOMI trailers useable in the whole of Europe, Asia and the Americas without changing any infrastructure or trucks. The long term vision is for SOMIs to become the new 'standard trailer' worldwide saving fuel, emissions, traffic, manpower and infrastructure costs.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
AEROPOWDER Ltd	AEROPOWDER- Innovative materials from poultry feather waste	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
At AEROPOWDER, we are aiming to develop sustainable functional materials from feathers. As our society continues to grow, we are placing an increasing strain on the environment through the creation and disposal of materials and products we use ever day. In a similar manner, a growing global population also faces other pressures, namely the impacts of providing food to billions of individuals. Although we consume 134 million birds a day across the world, we often forget that feathers removed from chickens are a significant waste disposal issue. We believe that by reusing feathers, not only can we ensure that a waste resource is used intelligently, but also that we can create materials that will be harness the natural properties of feathers to create environementally friendly high performance materials. With chicken being predicted to shortly become the most popular meat in the word, AEROPOWER materials have the potential to be found in every corner of the globe and assist in reducing the impact our society has on the world around us.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Ananas Anam UK Ltd	Piñatex™, a natural and sustainable alternative to leather	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
Ananas Anam Ltd has developed Piñatex™, a natural plant-based and versatile material from a sustainable source. This innovative material is made of fibres from pineapple leaves, a by-product of the pineapple harvest. Piñatex™ follows a strong social and ecological agenda and it can be mass-produced, which makes it a cost-effective textile proposition. Piñatex™ is patent-protected and is being first marketed to the following B2B markets: fashion and accessories, upholstery and automotive industries. Ananas Anam has been approached and has started working with a large number of companies from the specialty stores to leading retail brands and corporations which have expressed their interest in buying Piñatex™. The project will deliver a new biobased tested formulation for Piñatex™ . The newly developed Piñatex™ will achieve: * C2C certification * Technical market requirements. * Industrial up scaling capabilities. The innovative side of the project is that Piñatex is already a unique patented new textile with a proven track record of demand in the market – however, by developing a biobased, sustainable formulation to go with a plan-based substrate we will be achieving a new sustainable, traceable new material that will be right for the market demands.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Viridian Consultants Ltd	ViridiScreen: an innovative alpha characterisation sensor	£49,992	£49,992

Project description - provided by applicants

Kym Jarvis is the Managing Director of Viridian Consultants a microSME bringing innovative solutions to the nuclear industry. She is highly motivated with a track record as a successful research scientist and entrepreneur. She impresses others with her knowledge, enthusiasm, drive and determination. Her career marks her out as a role model for excellence and innovation through leadership. She is an enthusiastic mentor with the skills to motivate and inspire others. Her long term vision is to make nuclear decommissioning safer, cleaner, faster and more cost effective. To do this she plans to develop a handheld tool for complete characterisation of materials in the nuclear decommissioning and homeland security environments which will come to market within 10 years. This new device will reduce risk and radiation dose to the operator and will make Viridian the 'Go To' company for surface characterisation in the nuclear decommissioning industry world-wide. The project is to test the concept of a new tool, ViridiScreen which will measure radioactive contamination on a surface and, in real time, remove a small amount of that surface for detailed analysis. This is an innovative solution which could realise savings of many billions of pounds to the UK tax payer and the global nuclear industry.

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Senergy Innovations Ltd	Senergy Solar Thermal Panels	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
The capital cost of existing solar thermal collectors is the major barrier to use rather than efficiency; the objective of this project is to produce a roof based solar collector with adequate efficiency but at a potentially much lower cost that could be deployed on the large roof areas of commercial buildings to reduce space heating costs. The project aim is to capitalise on the strength and thermal conductivity of carbon nanotubes (CNT's) to reinforce polymer materials that have previously been too weak for thermal panel production and bring to market a robust and durable polymer solar thermal collection system that could be manufactured and installed at a 50% lower cost than existing metallic solar collectors with lightweight and aesthetic benefits that would allow significantly enhanced solar collection capability. Also the project aims to embed sensors to provide data to optimise heat energy generation and also allow friendly end user control. This would involve developing a software package to utilise the data analytics to perform as a sales tool that would enable a reduction in the cost of sale by up to 50%.This project will bring together expert roofing and polymer manufacturing companies alongside leading academics in the design of solar systems to optimise the polymeric panels through laboratory and solar simulated testing, determine an economic production process, attain solar keymark of the panels, the accreditation of manufacturing factories, protection of the component supply chain, securing of installers, extensive market analysis , innovativemarket exploitation and dissemination for successful commercialisation.			

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River Cycleway Consortium Ltd	"Thames Deckway" River Cycleway Consortium Ltd "Riding the Future".	£50,000	£50,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
Our mission for London is the Thames Deckway, a state of the art, traffic free pedestrian and bicycle pathway which will generate its own renewable energy along the River Thames. The Thames Deckway will be a fast, clean and safe cycling platform; an alternative to London's hazardous and polluted streets involving state-of-the-art design, engineering, energy and safety of operation. The Thames Deckway is a hybrid infrastructure solution because it also functions as an adaptive emergency flood relief platform in the event of London flooding. Up to now we've relied on nationwide agencies to respond to environmental crises but we think this time has now past as local emergencies require local and creative responses. Thames Deckway will become an iconic lifeline and backbone of smart, urban environmental transport, a green energy civil engineering infrastructure project for London and other global megacities.www.thamesdeckway.co.uk			

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