

Innovate UK

Results of Competition: IC Tomorrow: Innovation Contest: Future Retail
Competition Code: 1601_IC_FUTRE

Total available funding for this competition was £175K 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
Rewarding Visits Ltd	Barclays Book it	£35,000	£35,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>Customers will no longer need to queue to book an appointment to see a Personal Banking adviser. They will be able to book while at home, at the shops, or in the bank without waiting. When they arrive and check-in they will be greeted by name. Barclays' Book-it is a new appointment booking service by Rewarding Visits, for existing customers and new enquirers. Book-it will enable anyone to make appointment bookings and check-in for their meetings. It will be available online using a mobile device, from a home computer or at an interactive kiosk called a Touchpoint. Rewarding Visits will develop a Barclays Touchpoint. It includes a digital display, touch pad screen, card scanner and thermal printer. It will display real-time adviser availability and promote financial offers, as well as linking to Book-it. Touchpoint users will receive a handy printed reminder slip and be able to choose an optional notification. Online bookers get a notification message of their choice. On the day of the meeting, by entering their details at the Touchpoint, they will check in for the meeting. This alerts the adviser who can now welcome them by name. By linking to the Rewarding Visits network, Touchpoints can also be sited elsewhere in the community, extending the reach outside the bank's doors. If the project takes place at Barclay's in Mansfield or Sutton Coldfield, Barclays Book-it will also be available at six other Touchpoints elsewhere in the town: including the Shopping Centre, the College and the Cinema. Running in conjunction with the local loyalty scheme promoted by each town's Business Improvement District, Touchpoints are being installed in high footfall locations to boost local businesses. Each will make the most of the 4,000 plus members already in each town using town centre cards and the Rewarding Visits app. The Touchpoint at Barclays will recognise the holders of town cards and users of the Rewarding Visits app, making their appointment booking and checking-in experience much quicker. An iBeacon installed inside the Barclays Touchpoint will detect when a Rewarding Visits app user is in the building for a meeting, automatically checking them in, and alerting the adviser to meet them. By trialing the use of contactless cards and apps at the Touchpoint during the project, it will pave the way for development of payment card and app recognition for seamless branch use. Through working alongside other businesses in the town for the project, it will chart the potential for using a Touchpoint at Barclays as a community hub for stimulating visits for local businesses in other towns.</p>			

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Proxama Solutions Ltd	Retail Market Services	£35,000	£35,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>Taking up the challenge to help London's markets adapt and grow through innovative technology, Proxama will provide its award winning Loka App to develop a prototype Retail Markets Service. This service will enable consumers to consume real time deals and promotions as they pass by and through markets. Proxama's Loka service uses Bluetooth beacon technology to precisely position the consumer within the local area and retail market to deliver highly targeted messaging to drive footfall and increase in-market purchasing. This new capability and real-time consumption of promotions on mobile should appeal and attract a much needed younger demographic into street and covered markets. Proxama will develop a simple snap and advertise management app for market traders to rapidly and simply add new promotions to Loka, significantly reducing the technical barriers for market traders. The ease of use and applicability of this capability for stallholders will be validated as part of the project. Proxama's commercial partner PlayAmigo will provide invaluable commercial insight by working with the GLA to map out the covered and street market landscape, identify the key challenges faced by markets and validate that the proposed mobile service addresses these challenges. The outcome of this project will be a proven, low cost, commercial service and case study that provides an attractive return on investment for market traders and operators by increasing sales, footfall and providing consumers with useful and engaging mobile services as they shop. PlayAmigo plan to rollout these services to covered and street markets nationally during 2017.</p>			

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Cephalometrics Ltd	Cephalometrics	£32,425	£32,425
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>Cephalometrics. Anatomic eyewear design: creating unique, made-to-measure spectacles. For two hundred years, spectacle frame making was a hallmark of British craft, closely tied to the watching making trades around Hatton Garden, London. Frame design was a revered skill, and each pair of spectacles was made specifically for an individual, to both fit impeccably and provide excellent visual acuity. The British Standards became the highest in the world. Today, however, spectacles have become a commodotised, 'one-size-fits-all' solution to what is a very individual problem. Now, through the application of modern technology, we are reviving this forgotten craft. Our technology, Cephalometrics, uses 3D scanning to create an individual point cloud of a human face. Parametric design allows us to create a spectacle frame which fits the wearer to sub-millimeter accuracy. The design, a 360 degree interactive model, can be viewed, amended and updated in real time. The frame can be 3D printed or sent directly to a CNC machine, created, glazed and worn. Cephalometrics is not merely about aesthetics. Creating a truly individual made-to-measure product is a means to an end, rather than an end in itself. The technology allows us to provide an interactive and cost-effective solution to issues such as: - Specific optical requirements, such as extreme myopia - Medical conditions, such as microtia and endocrine disorders, or facial disfigurements, where 'off-the-peg' frames are simply unsuitable - Ensuring an impeccable fit for those with different facial structures, such as Asian fit bridges - Vocational considerations, where a particular style, fit or size of frame is required for specialist work, for example for surgeons, engineers, pilots, etc,</p>			

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THAW Technology Ltd	Use-By-Mate - Empowering consumers to reduce waste	£35,000	£35,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
THAW Technology Ltd is an engineering design consultancy with a difference; we start from zero, applying our knowledge and skills to real life problems, inventing new and innovative solutions. Our unbridled passion for product design allows us to guide others through each step of this creative process, from design to manufacture. This passion lends to the realisation of both creative and pragmatic solutions. We excel in Mechanical, Product, Electronic and Simulation Engineering having worked in a wide variety of industries. With close ties to many machinists and manufacturers, products can be turned round in days and solutions become reality far sooner than believed possible.			

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Action Artificial Intelligence Ltd	Conversational Commerce: Frictionless Ordering and Re-ordering	£34,745	£34,745
Project description - provided by applicants			
Action Artificial Intelligence has built an artificially intelligent shopping assistant that works within messaging platforms, for example, Facebook Messenger, Whatsapp or via SMS. We call this Conversational Commerce. The solution enables people to order products simply by texting in their natural language what they would like to do ' the process is 10x faster than anything in the market. The ordering process is intuitive with no apps to download and no need to learn any keywords or complex systems ' the user simply says what they'd like and can place an order or seek information in seconds. The approach is perfect whether ordering a single item, adding an item to a shopping basket, or re-ordering a whole basket of goods.			

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