

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thames Tideway Tunnel, Breakfast event

Joint event with National Maritime Development Group - Thames & Channel

Date: Thursday 28th March 2013

Venue: School of Engineering, University of Greenwich, Chatham Maritime, ME4 4TB, Kent

The next meeting of the National Maritime Development Group will be on Thursday 28th March 2013 at the School of Engineering, University of Greenwich, Chatham Maritime, Kent at 07.30 hrs, in partnership with BIG (Kent arm for www.lsema.org.uk) supporters of maritime manufacturing, engineering and technology and the Enterprise Europe Network, this venue will be providing a full English breakfast and our guest speaker will be Mr Roger Bailey, Head of Asset Delivery at Thames Tideway Tunnel who will speaking about the planned construction of a major new sewer for London to ensure that the capital's sewerage system meets the demands of 21st century and protects the River Thames from increasing pollution for at least the next 100 years.

The Thames & Channel National Maritime Development Group represents a maritime 'cluster' of more than 4000 businesses, employing 105,000 people, with a turnover of £5 billion per annum. We exist to promote and develop excellence in all maritime related activities in the region and to represent the interests of existing and new members who offer a wide range of capabilities from primarily eight key sectors; International Shipping, Port Operations & Business Services, Marine Engineering & Renewable Energy, Fisheries, Heritage, Offshore Oil, Water-sports and Leisure. The group has been formed through the commitment of private and public sector partners across the region with a shared vision to build a strong partnership network that best uses partner's expertise and experience to offer the best solutions for the sector whilst driving local skills and employment opportunities.

The group welcomes all businesses with an interest in the maritime sector. Breakfast is free for all NMDG/BIG members and £15 + VAT for their paid-for guests and non-members. Membership to the National Maritime Development Group is £100 + VAT per annum. **To attend, please email at info@big-kent.org.uk or call on (01634) 883912.**

Intellectual Property Rights Seminar

BIG-Kent will be holding a seminar on protecting your intellectual property rights on Tuesday 30 April 2013 from 9am until 1 pm. The event will include presentations from EIP, a firm of intellectual property attorneys and solicitors, and a series of 1-2-1 IP clinics, which can be booked in advance. The session will conclude with lunch and networking.

Agenda - The Complete IP Life Cycle

This presentation will include a case study covering development and acquisition of IP rights, IP licensing, IP due diligence and IP enforcement. The speakers will be partners **Gary Moss** <http://www.eip.com/#/about_eip/people/gary_moss>, an IP solicitor and head of EIP Legal, and **Paula Flutter** <http://www.eip.com/#/about_eip/people/paula_flutter>, a patent and trademark attorney and head of EIP Dynamics.

Patent Box

The Government's Patent Box comes into effect on 1 April 2013. The scheme gives favourable tax treatment to that element of profits which arises from the exploitation of patented inventions. The savings could be very significant for those companies which invest heavily in R&D and innovation. This new regime necessitates companies reviewing their IP strategies. In particular those companies which up to now have not patented their developments will need to decide whether they should now do so. And those companies which do currently hold patents will need to review their current holdings to ascertain whether they remain relevant.

The speaker will be **James Seymour** <http://www.eip.com/#/about_eip/people/



Sub-Regional Network for
Technology,
Engineering & Manufacturing
www.big-kent.org.uk

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[james.seymour](#)>, an expert in the Patent Box and former IP counsel at Nokia. James will give an outline of the regime and explain what companies need to do to ensure that they qualify.

IP Clinics

Gary, Paula, and James will be on hand to provide free IP advice on a 1-2-1 basis. The IP Clinics are each 15 minutes long, but please book in advance as availability is limited.

Civil Engineering Final Year Project poster day

Date: Thursday 2nd May 2013

Venue: School of Engineering, University of Greenwich, Chatham Maritime, ME4 4TB, Kent

Prof Amir Alani, [The Bridge Wardens' Chair in Bridge and Tunnel Engineering](#) and the Head of the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Greenwich invites you to attend the Civil Engineering Final Year Project poster day which will take place on Thursday, 2 May 2013 in the Ward Room (P129) at the Medway Campus from 1.00pm – 3.00pm. Lunch will be available at 12.00pm, prior to the formal start of the event. This is a very special event in the Department's yearly calendar, at which all third year students (MEng, BEng and BSc) present posters they have produced in support of the Final Year Projects they have been working on throughout the whole year. The posters are formally assessed and the marks awarded contribute to each student's overall Final Year Project mark. This event presents an excellent opportunity to meet with and discuss collaborative projects with the Civil Engineering researchers, lecturers and leading experts from the Civil and Construction industry. For registration information please contact at info@big-kent.org.uk or Tel: 01634 883 912



2013 Calendar

April 25 th	Kent Vision 2020 exhibition
May 28 th	National Historic Ships; Joint event with National Maritime Development Group
Aug	Quality and Standards Certification - Master class
Sep	Factory Automation workshop and EU-IMOCCA project Industry group; in partnership with PI-UK



For more information about the above events and to register your interest please email at info@big-kent.org.uk or call on (01634) 883912.

NEWS UPDATES and ARTICLES

Updates from recent events and shows

4th to 6th March – Bloodhound Swale

BIG-Kent was at the Bloodhound Super Sonic Car's team visit to the Swale centre in Sittingbourne. This event was a showcase for enthusiasts, supporters of STEM and to inspire school students and youngsters to consider STEM subjects and sectors as their preferred career choice. The visit to Swale had been planned to engage with local businesses, the Borough Council, strategic education and economic planners with Kent County Council and communities and families within the area. BIG-Kent had the opportunity to exhibit at the event and support the efforts of BW Fulfilment, Wire belt, Swale Kills Centre and Swale Council and the event was a great success.

BIG-Kent supports: Engineering and Manufacturing, The Future in Kent.

University of Greenwich and BIG-Kent showed their support for the industry sectors that has the most potential to grow the Kent economy; Engineering and manufacturing. The Kent Economic Board hosted this event in partnership with Kent County Council. The event was very stimulating as it covered aspects such as driving investment, tackling the requirement for skills and shaping business development.

Southern Manufacturing Show 2013, FIVE, Farnborough 13-14 February 2013

BIG-Kent network partners, University of Greenwich, MJ Allen Group, Circatron, Rastervision (and Maggie Gammon) were at the exhibition for a third year in series. Elsewhere in the show were other BIG members such as Stickleback Manufacturing, M-Tek, Radiometrix, Briton EMS and about 20 other Kent Companies. The BIG-Kent network exhibited alongside many prestigious companies from around UK and the world at UK's *LARGEST regional manufacturing technology, electronics and subcontracting exhibition*. This event provided a platform for improving the BIG-Kent network and to introduce more businesses to the umbrella network.



IP and Trademarks event 28th Nov 2012

The Intellectual and Trademarks event was attended by companies and members of the BIG-Kent network which happened on 28th November at the University of Greenwich, Chatham Maritime. The guest speaker was Simon Stanes, a European and UK trademarks Attorney and the head of trademark practice, *EIP brands*, at intellectual property attorneys and solicitors, EIP. Using practical examples and case studies from SMEs, the event featured a series of topics regarding the trademark and intellectual property protection issues and the benefits of trademarks as a 'safeguard' for brands and products. The event was successful as it empowered and created awareness for the businesses on the procedures for protecting, registering and enforcing trademarks on brands and products.



Innovative Product Development Workshop on 10th Dec 2012

The event was attended by major manufacturing companies in Kent and surrounding areas with senior industrial speakers from **BAE Systems, Ford, Cummins Power Generation** and invited senior speakers from the French side of the Channel. The purpose of the workshops was to bring together companies in Kent and the surrounding areas, to discuss and share experiences in manufacturing engineering, focusing on strategic issues related to new product development and associated lifecycle activities. The workshop was a joint event with the industrial and academic partners of the recently awarded EU INTERREG project - **BENEFITS (Building an Expertise Network for an Efficient Innovation and Training System)** in both the UK and French sides of the Channel and it focused on interactive discussions about industrial problems, issues, solutions and trends in product lifecycle management and related topics. The delegates were also involved in discussions and interactions on **six sigma** and **statistical process control**.



Apprenticeship opportunities facilitated by SEMTA

The **Sector Skills Council** for Science, Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies (SEMTA) is promoting a streamlined apprenticeship scheme targeted at Manufacturing companies, part funded by SEMTA. BIG-Kent is working together with SEMTA to promote this scheme for the benefit of the network members. For more details about this scheme contact us at info@big-kent.org.uk or Tel 01634 883 912



SEMTA regional event 18th Dec 2012: BIG-Kent hosted the SEMTA London region meeting at the Dartford Nucleus. SEMTA is to become a supporting organisation of BIG-Kent and Dr Pal Kulandaivel Co-ordinator of BIG-Kent has been invited to join the SEMTA London and South East Advisory Board.

Manufacturing Advisory Service for KENT

MAS Kent joins BIG-Kent as a Supporting Organisation

What is MAS?

MAS (Manufacturing Advisory Service) is funded by BIS (Department for Business, Innovation and Skills). We provide support for manufacturing businesses based in England to help them improve and grow. MAS are designed to help you, the manufacturer, streamline your processes, reduce waste, become more energy efficient and generally improve and grow your business. Regardless of the size of your business our experienced and highly skilled advisors can help you. They all have 'hands-on' experience of both shop floor working and management skills. They will work with you and your workforce to ensure that your business is run in the best way possible and If you're a small or medium sized manufacturer in England, many of our services are free and supplemented by appropriate grant funding. Don't just take our word for it - read some of the case studies you will find on this website. They are about companies like yours that have discovered the benefits of MAS. MAS has been a huge success since its launch in 2002. Working with thousands of companies it now plays a vital role in helping manufacturers in England to share knowledge, improve productivity and achieve success in an increasing competitive global economy.

50% grant towards improving your business?

- You choose the consultant.
- You choose the project that will help grow your business.

MAS will support it*.

It's that simple.

The Manufacturing Advisory Service is here to make it easier for your business to grow. Talk to our team of experienced Advisors who can talk you through the MAS funding options and the types of consultancy projects that are eligible for a grant of up to 50%* (***We are able to offer funded support to SME manufacturers in England**).

- Projects in scope include: Lean, 5S, continuous improvement; Patent search activities; IPR strategy; Staff training; Sales and marketing strategy; IT and E-commerce; Finance; Consultancy to improve product design; Design for manufacture and assembly; Product development consultancy; Rapid prototyping to support advanced manufacturing; Material selection; Subcontract cad design and drafting; Tooling costs. The MAS funding process is quick and easy to access for SMEs; and you're able to seek support for up to three significant projects every 12 months.

Who can take advantage of what MAS has to offer

The MAS services are open to any company provided they are engaged in manufacturing regardless of size. We mainly provide support for SMEs, but larger companies can use our resources at market rates. Subsidised project support from our advisor teams is available to SMEs whereas larger companies will pay the current rate. You must be a manufacturer based in England to access our support. The definition of manufacturing as per the MAS Guidelines is: "The modern definition of manufacturing is broad. The full cycle of activities from research, design and development, production, logistics, and service provision to end of life management." The definition we use for manufacturing makes a strong distinction between production (the physical processes of making, bending, etc.) and manufacturing (the overarching process of getting raw materials to goods and their associated services). By taking this approach to defining manufacturing it becomes easier to see that although an organisation may choose to outsource its production activities, it remains at heart a manufacturing company.



Your company can call itself an SME if:

- Less than 250 employees
- Having an annual turnover of less than €50m or a balance sheet of less than €43m
- Not part of a group which in itself exceeds one of the criteria above.



Working in Partnership with MAS

The MAS Directory is an on-line searchable directory to allow manufacturers to search for a suitable specialist providers and consultants to address their manufacturing issue. All specialist providers able to deliver MAS funded projects must be registered on our directory.

If you would like to get in touch with your local MAS Partner please contact us Tel – 01634 883 912 or E: info@big-kent.org.uk so that we can help you.

***BIG-Kent** established in 2009, is the umbrella network in Kent and Lon/SE LEP area (Kent arm for www.lsema.org.uk) for Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology sectors. It is a platform for peer-peer learning and collaborating aimed at private and public sector opportunities, supply chain, funding, partnerships, innovation and growth. BIG is led by the local Manufacturing industry community and is promoted jointly by the University of Greenwich at Medway in Kent and the following support organisations that form the Advisory Group. They represent the wider interests of the business community, gauge relevance of activities set-out to promote the BIG members' interests and support the activities. For more details please visit www.big-kent.org.uk*

Professional/Skills Group

University of Greenwich; SEMTA; National Skills Academy for Manufacturing

Industry Advisory Group

MJ Allen Group; Wirebelt Ltd; BAE Systems; Circatron Ltd; MEP Ltd

Business Support Group

EEF – The manufacturers' organisation; Manufacturing Advisory Service; Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce; Kent Channel Chamber of Commerce; Institute of Directors; Archant KOS Media; Business Week; The Bridge Nucleus; Medway Innovation Centre; Enterprise Europe Network South East; National Maritime Development Group

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