

UPCOMING EVENTS

I-MOCCA Conference and Industry User Group

Date: Thursday 13th-14th June 2013

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

The University of Greenwich at Medway will host the next internal conference for the i-MOCCA consortium. The i-MOCCA project is an interregional network of competence centres in the field of industrial data communication and embedded systems, funded by ERDF (INTTREG). The project offers advanced training to industry and works to develop innovation within the field. The University of Greenwich at Medway, Kent, will be home to the UK centre as part of a 7 member EU consortium with other centres in France and Belgium. For more details please visit our website at www.imocca.eu. Professionals and Companies in relevant areas that wish to attend part of this event and to become part of the Industry User Group, to learn about the free training opportunities and collaborative project opportunities **please email at info@big-kent.org.uk or call on (01634) 883912.**

BIG-Kent Supports 'Seawork 2013 International'

Date: Wednesday 25th – 27th June 2013

BIG-Kent is proud to support the Seawork 2013 International exhibition. Seawork International is the largest and fastest growing commercial marine and workboat exhibition to be held in a European working port. This event, held at one of Europe's busiest harbours, showcases a wide range of commercial marine activities and provides access to the commercial marine and workboat markets.

The event would also involve the Channel Innovation Network (CHAIN2) project, an EU funded project set up to build trading opportunities between UK and French companies. **WSX Enterprise**, through the CHAIN2 project, would hold a business convention on UK/French business relationships and Maritime business opportunities in France tagged "**Maritime opportunities in Bretagne and Normandy – How to do business in France**", 1-2-1 meetings organised with a range of French businesses and an evening networking event with French businesses. For further information, **please email at info@big-kent.org.uk or call on (01634) 883912.**

University of Greenwich and BIG-Kent Supports 'Manufacturing & Engineering Expo 2013'

Date: Wednesday 10th July 2013

Venue: Historic Dockyard, Chatham Maritime

The University of Greenwich is a proud supporter of the next Kent manufacturing and engineering expo holding at the Historic Dockyards on 10th July 2013.

What to Expect?

- Demonstration of innovative business solutions and updates on the latest products and services for engineering and manufacturing.
- Opportunity to meet key clientele and improve supply chain for your business.
- A unique opportunity to showcase your expertise and the services you provide.
- A good place to engage with fellow professionals and colleagues.
- A vibrant atmosphere for meeting, networking and finding new customers, clients, suppliers and business partners.



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

Supporting
Organisations:



2013 Calendar

Aug	Quality and Standards Certification - Master class
Sep	1) Factory Automation workshop and EU-IMOCCA project Industry group; in partnership with PI-UK
	2) IP Rights and Licensing workshop

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

What's new?

30th May – National Historic Ships: NMDG Breakfast Event

The breakfast meeting of the National Maritime Development Group was held on Thursday 30th May 2013 at the University of Greenwich, The Old Royal Naval College, Maritime Greenwich. The Guest speakers included Martyn Heighton, Director and Hannah Cunliffe, Policy & Project Manager, National Historic Ships UK, who spoke about the organisations advisory role to UK government, its work with the Heritage Lottery Fund and their skills development programmes, including the support available for the historic ships sector through grants, conservation and business advice. Speakers included Professor Chris Bellamy who welcomed the guests to the Greenwich campus and spoke on "Preserving and promoting Britain's maritime heritage", Dr Stoyan Stoyanov who gave a presentation on "Computer-aided conservation for Cutty Sark" and Dr Pal Kulandaivel who hosted this event briefed about the Enterprise Europe Network. The Event was attended by over 35 guests, including members of the National Maritime Development Group (NMDG) and members of the Business Innovation Group Kent (BIG-Kent).

25th April – BIG Kent at 'Kent 2020 Live'

BIG-Kent was present at the Kent 2020 live event and exhibited alongside Kent Businesses and organisations. Dr Jeff Pedley from the Enterprise Europe Network and Mary McKinlay from Institute of Directors Kent received the guests at the stall and informed them about the good work of BIG-Kent network in the county and the in the south east LEP area. There were a lot of businesses and organisations with interest in the network. The event provided a platform for BIG-Kent to reach out to new and innovative firms from Kent and increases its network of partners.

28th March – Thames Tideway Tunnel: NMDG Breakfast Event

The breakfast meeting of the National Maritime Development Group was held on Thursday 28th March 2013 at the School of Engineering, University of Greenwich, Chatham Maritime, in Kent. BIG-Kent and the University of Greenwich Medway hosted the National Maritime Development group breakfast event which was attended by delegates from the NMDG network, BIG and University of Greenwich, in partnership with the Thames Gateway and South East LEP Manufacturing alliance, the Enterprise Europe Network and supporters of maritime manufacturing, engineering and technology. Professor Alan Reed from UoG welcomed the guests and spoke about the history of the Medway campus and Dr Pal Kulandaivel -who hosted the event - spoke briefly about the BIG Network. The guest speaker was Mr. Roger Bailey, Head of Asset Delivery at Thames Tideway Tunnel. The presentation was enlightening and some issues concerning the tunnel development were addressed by the group.

Updates from recent events and shows

4th to 6th March – Bloodhound Swale

BIG-Kent was at the Bloodhound Super Sonic Car's visit to the Swale centre in

2013 Event Partners



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 supported the efforts of BW Fulfillment, Wire belt, Swale Kills Centre and Swale Council. 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 13th -14th February 2013

BIG-Kent network partners, University of Greenwich, SEMTA/National Skills Academy for Manufacturing, MJ Allen Group, Circatron, Rastervision were at the exhibition for a third year in series. 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 introduces 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 many businesses on the procedures for protecting, registering and enforcing trademarks on brands and products.

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 is 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%*. 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 and so on. 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.

***We are able to offer funded support to SME manufacturers in England.**

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 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, led by the local Manufacturing industry community is promoted jointly by the University of Greenwich at Medway in Kent, the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, the Kent Channel Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise Europe Network (south east), EEF-The Manufacturers Organisation, Archant KOS Media (Media Sponsors), the Institute of Directors Kent, The Bridge Nucleus, The Medway Innovation Centre, NMDG, Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) and SEMTA. The Key Manufacturers like Premier Foods, Circatron Ltd, MJ Allen Group, Wirebelt Ltd, MEP Ltd and BAE Systems form the Industry Board 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. BIG-Kent partners with equivalent networks in London and South East making the London and South East Manufacturing Alliance." For more details please visit www.big-kent.org.uk

Contact Details: Dr Pal Kulandaivel, Co-ordinator,BIG-Kent, Tel: 01634 883912, E-mail: kp32@gre.ac.uk