NATEP

Materials Projects





















Materials Projects

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Low Cost FST	CECENCE	Humphrey Bunyan
Compliant	SHD Composites	Director & Head of Innovation
Composite Components	Wavelength NDTPitch Aircraft Seating (customer)	humphrey@cecence.com

The development of low cost, fast process methods & FST compliant thermoplastic/thermoset materials to replace structural aluminium components. Bio resins and low toxicity recyclable solutions will be a focus.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
C-MET	Aerospace Metal Composites Ltd	Dr Stuart Godfrey
Composite	Cosworth Ltd	Business Development Manager
Metal Engine Technology	Rolls-Royce plc (customer)BRP-Rotax (customer)	stuart.godfrey@materion.com

The C-MET project will develop the use of metal matrix composites for aero-engine applications, lighter weight designs will enable lower costs and significant reductions in aero-engine emissions.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
CTES - Lower	Composite Tooling & Engineering Solutions	Liam Moloney
Cost, Higher	Ltd	Director
Performance	SHD Composite Materials Ltd	
Composite	Applied Graphene Materials Ltd	liam@ctesltd.co.uk
Tooling	GKN Aerospace (customer)	

To develop a lower cost, higher performance, composite tooling solution suitable for use in the production of all types of composite aerospace structures.

NATEP Grant £147,225

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
CAUTION -	Sensor Coating Systems	Dr Jörg P. Feist
CoAtings for	Monitor Coatings Ltd	Managing Director
Ultra high	MAN Diesel & Turbo SE	
Temperature	NASA (customer)	j.feist@sensorcoatings.com
detectION	United Technologies Research Centre	
	(customer)	
	Pratt & Whitney (customer)	

The project 'CAUTION - CoAtings for Ultra high Temperature detectION' will develop a Thermal History Coating for accurate temperature profiling of critical components in the range 900°C to 1500°C and beyond.

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Standardised	 Enabling Process Technologies Ltd 	Dr John Philip Tyler
Image	Strain Solutions Ltd	Director
Correlation for	Airbus (customer)	
Industry	, ,	philip.tyler@eptworld.com

The project will develop a new physical method for validating digital image correlation displacement/strain data by achieving traceability to the length standard at the time of test data capture.

NATEP Grant £58,142

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Fit and Forget Cable Harnesses	Scientific Management International Ltd Concept Cables Ltd Safran Landing Systems (customer)	Glen Richardson Chief Technical Officer glen.richardson@smi.group

Fit and forget design solution to avoid any water or moisture ingress into aircraft landing gear connector harnesses.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Graphene	Haydale Composite Solutions	Peter Hansen
Composites	Cobham Technical Services	Engineering Manager
Evaluated in	• Airbus	
Lightening Strike (GraCELS-2)	BAE Systems (customer)	peter.hansen@haydalecs.com

The project aims to deliver a generation of carbon fibre-reinforced composites with greatly improved performance in lightning-strike combined with improvements in mechanical properties by utilising the ability of functionalized graphene and other 2D Nano-fillers in the matrix of the composite material to significantly improve the electrical conductivity of the composite material

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Graphene Enhanced	Haydale Composite Solutions	Peter Hansen
Adhesive	Element Materials Technology	Engineering Manager
Technology through	Airbus (customer)	
Functionalization	GE Aviation Systems (customer)	peter.hansen@haydalecs.com
(GrEAT Fun-2)	, , ,	

Adhesive bonds using conventional adhesives are generally electrical insulators which can cause issues when the parts being joined are electrically conductive. This project aims to use graphene and other 2D nano platelets in order to improve the electrical conductivity of adhesive bonds as well as enhance the strength of the bonded layer and to build on the success of the GrEAT Fun project

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Advanced	Aeromet International Ltd	Paul Monington
Magnesium	Luxfer MEL Technologies	Head of New Technology
Investment Casting	• Spirit Aero Systems (customer)	
(AMIC)		paul.monington@aeromet.co.uk

The development of investment casting technology to enable the casting of near net shape magnesium castings. The project utilises additive manufacturing techniques in pattern production to reduce lead time and production costs, while addressing reported casting difficulties with innovative ceramic shell solutions.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Nano-Enhanced	Coventive Composites	Gary Foster
Aerospace Interiors	Applied Graphene Materials Ltd	Senior Project Manager
(NEAT)	Composites Evolution Ltd	gary.foster@netcomposites.com

The development of investment casting technology to enable the casting of near net shape magnesium castings. The project utilises additive manufacturing techniques in pattern production to reduce lead time and production costs, while addressing reported casting difficulties with innovative ceramic shell solutions.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
A20X Surface	Aeromet	Mike Bond - Director of Advanced
Treatments	Poeton Industries	Material Technology
Development	Boeing (customer)	mike.bond@aeromet.co.uk

The project will develop and verify the performance on a range of metal finishing treatments (anodic and chemical conversion coatings) for Aeromets A20X family of casting alloys without using hexavalent chrome compounds (which have a limited life under REACH legislation).

NATEP grant £35,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Thermoplastic	AGC AeroComposites	David Conway - Materials Technology
Composite	The National Composites Centre	Director
Fusion Welding	Ten Cate Advanced Composites Ltd	dave.conway@agcaerocomposites.com
(CoFusion)	Rolls-Royce plc (customer)	

The CoFusion project builds on previous development work to optimise the efficiency and applicability of an innovative, rapid, low cost and flexible thermoplastic composite welding process to aerospace standards.

NATEP Grant £137,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Large Deployable	Oxford Space Systems	Mat Rowe – Project Manager
Antenna for	Reliance Precision Ltd	mat.rowe@oxfordspacesystems.com
Space	MDA Corporation UK Ltd (customer)	
	 VTOL-Technologies (customer) 	

Oxford Space Systems will design & develop a reflector surface for attachment to their existing scalable large deployable antenna.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Flexible Air	AVS- SYS Ltd	Andrew Whitehead – Engineering Director
distribution	Arville Textiles	awhitehead@avsupport.org.uk
ducting	• Raytheon (customer)	

The project is to design weight-saving and cost saving flexible aerospace ducts which will support the development of a new manufacturing facility in the North West of England providing employment opportunities and increased exports.

NATEP Grant £127,850

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Rapid	Centrax Turbine Components	Josh Sansom
Development	Mettis Aerospace	Josh.sansom@centraxtcl.com
Compressor	West Country Tools (WCT)	
Component	Rolls-Royce plc (customer)	
Manufacture	, , , ,	

Providing a full commodity manufacturing solution to the production of HPC components to meet cost, quality and delivery targets in a flexible design sphere

NATEP Grant £149,340

Project Title	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Polymeric Additive Manufacturing for Aircraft Interiors	Bristol Aero Ltd HiETA Technologies Ltd Ipeco Holdings (customer) Jet Aviation AG (customer)	Brett Peterson – Head of Engineering brett.peterson@bristol.aero

The use of recently developed, cost effective, polymeric additive manufacturing materials with sufficient levels of fire retardancy for use in high value aircraft interiors and systems is investigated through a full design-manufacture-test cycle.

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Metal Matrix	Aerospace Metal Composites Ltd	Dr Stuart Godfrey – Business Development
Composites for	Mettis Aerospace	Manager
Helicopter	 Leonardo MW Ltd (customer) 	stuart.godfrey@materion.com
Applications		

This project will develop both an aluminium and Silicon Carbide (SiC) metal matrix composite (MMC) material and create a forging supply chain specifically for helicopter applications. The funding will thus create a UK source (for the first time) for this high performance material which is required in the aerospace market.

NATEP Grant £ 150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
SmartHUD	Artemis Optical	Stuart Allan – Technology Director
	Plessey Semiconductors Ltd	stuart.allan@artemis-optical.co.uk
	BAE Systems (customer)	

SmartHUD aims to use the recent proliferation in LED light sources and design unique and novel thin film coatings to enable their use in Head Up Display systems. The advantages sought are reduced weight, longer useful life of the light source and enhanced optical performance of the overall module.

NATEP Grant £102,890

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Lead-Free	Chemring	Andrew Bentley - BD Technology &
Detonating	Brunel University	Innovation Executive – Devices
Cords	Martin Baker Aircraft (customer)	andrew.bentley@chemringenergetics.co.uk

The identification of suitable alloys and manufacturing processes to replace lead in the explosive detonating cords used in aircraft and space launch vehicles.

NATEP Grant £128,890

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Composite	AGC Aero Composites	David Conway – Materials Technology
Electrostatic	Element Materials Technology	Director
Transport	• ENL Ltd	dave.conway@agcaerocomposites.com
Elements	Technical Fibre Products Ltd	
(CompETE)	Airbus Operations (customer)	

The development of lightweight, shaped and damage resistant composite fuel pipe assemblies that by virtue of their tightly controlled electrical properties can be used safely in composite aircraft fuel tanks

NATEP Grant £131,090

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
High Strength	Cabot Design Ltd	Mervin Davidson – Director
Aluminium	Gingerneering Ltd	merv.davidson@cabotdesign.com
Alloy Failure	 Airbus Operations (customer) 	
Modelling		

An advanced material model which facilitates the accurate analysis of high strength aluminium alloys under complex loading conditions, with specific application to the prediction of the initiation of failure under load. NATEP Grant $\pm 150,000$

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Graphene	Haydale Composite Solutions Ltd	Gerry Boyce – Managing Director
Composites	SHD Composites Ltd	gerry.boyce@haydalecs.com
Evaluated in	Cobham Antenna Services	
Lightening	Airbus UK(customer)	
Strike (GraCELS)	BAE Systems plc (customer)	

The addition of functionalized graphene nanoparticles into the epoxy resin matrix of composite materials will greatly enhance the electrical conductivity thereby making them much more resistant to lightning-strike damage.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Biocomposites for Aerospace Interiors (BAIT)	 Coventive Composites AIM Composites Composites Evolution AIM Cabin Interiors (customer) 	Elliot Fleet – Project Manager elliot.fleet@coventivecomposites.com

The project will develop pre-impregnated ("Prepreg") composite materials for aerospace interior applications that are based on a novel 100% bio-based fire-safe resin system that provides an alternative to conventional petrochemically-derived phenolics

NATEP Grant £146,570

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Enterprise	SHD Composite Materials Ltd	Nick Smith – Technical Director
Bio-Interiors	AIM Aviation Ltd	nsmith@shdcomposites.com
Project	Ipeco Composites (customer)	

The innovative technology to be developed is a water based resin pre-impregnated glass fibre composite material (pre-preg) giving good Fire Smoke and Toxicity (FST) properties for the aircraft interiors market.

NATEP Grant £74,500

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Inkjet Printed Graphene	Applied Graphene Materials	Dr Tim von Werne
Composite Materials	Limited	Technical Director
	SHD Composite Materials Limited	Tim.vonwerne@appliedgraphenematerial
	The Boeing Company (customer)	s.com

This project seeks to produce lighter and more damage tolerant composites by optimising the application of new graphene materials and processing techniques. Successful demonstration will enable composites to achieve a step further towards their full potential. In practical terms: tougher composites means lighter composites which leads to significantly lower operating costs for the aerospace industry.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Next Generation Single Crystal	 Investment Casting Systems 	David Granados Alcala
Helix	Ltd	Programmes Manager
	C&M Mould Tools Ltd	David@investmentcastingsystems.co.uk
	Resinex UK Ltd	
	 Rolls-Royce (Precision Casting 	
	Foundry) (customer)	
Design and production of an innovative feature which will increase the production yield of the		

Design and production of an innovative feature which will increase the production yield of the casting process for single crystal turbine blades & structures.

NATEP Grant £142,600

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Mouldable Liners	• SKF	Grant Dennis
	 WMG HVM Catapult 	Project Manager
	• Leonardo MW Ltd (customer)	grant.dennis@skf.com
This project will develop greater flexibility and customisation to plain bearings technologies		

This project will develop greater flexibility and customisation to plain bearings technologies, permitting them meet the changing and demanding requirements of the aerospace market.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Textilub – a novel	• SKF	Michael Colton
self-lubricating liner	Tiab Limited	Local Product Development Manager
	• Leonardo MW Ltd (customer)	Michael.Colton@skf.com
Textilub will deliver the next generation of novel plain hearings to the meet the changing and		

Textilub will deliver the next generation of novel plain bearings to the meet the changing and demanding requirements of the aerospace market

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Multifab- A Multifunctional	Diversus Ltd	Chris Brill
composite fabric concept	 University of Bath 	Director
	Leonardo MW Ltd (customer)	info@Diversus.Technology

The main objective of this project is the development of a multifunctional fabric to be embedded as an additional layer in conventional helicopter blades. Intrinsic functionalities include anti and deicing properties, damage detection and lightning strike protection.

NATEP Grant £148,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Graphene-Enhanced	Haydale Composite Solutions Ltd	Dr Quentin Fontana
adhesive Technology	SHD Composites Ltd	Collaborative R&D Manager
through	Element Materials Technology Hitchin Ltd	quentin.fontana@haydalecs.com
Functionalisation	Airbus (customer)	
	GE Aviation Systems (customer)	

Addition of functionalized graphene to epoxy adhesives will allow them to act as electrical conductors rather than as insulators allowing for an electrically unified structure

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Cooled Core Die	Gardner BTC Ltd	Keith Fulford
Blocks	Material Solutions	Project Manager
	• Invest Tech Ltd (customer)	kfulford@gardner-aerosapce.com

Gardner BTC Ltd., manufacturer of Injection dies is developing new technologies to produce core dies using alternative advanced manufacturing methods, specifically focused on providing better injected parts and reduced non-conformance.

NATEP Grant £52,150

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Fe-36Ni MMC for	Aerospace Metal Composites Ltd	David Tricker
space and	ExoTec Precision	Technical Manager
aerospace	NASA Goddard Space Flight Centre	david.tricker@materion.com
applications	·	

This project will develop a Fe-36Ni metal matrix composite (MMC) material. Specifically this composite material will have reduced density and improved thermal expansion properties compared to more conventional Invar® type systems

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
ADAPT – Affordable	Hyde Aero Products Ltd	Paul Mellor
Detail Additive Parts	HK3D Solutions Ltd	Technical Director
Technology	• MBDA UK Ltd	pmellor@hydeaero.co.uk
	◆ The Boeing Company (customer)	

The ADAPT project will seek to determine the applicability of Atomic Diffusion Additive Manufacturing technology for use in cost effective manufacture and optimised design of detail metallic components in aerospace when compared to traditional subtractive manufacturing strategies.

NATEP Grant £98,150

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Composite Baseplates	Technical Composite Systems Ltd	Michael Sloan
for aerospace	Cobham Antenna Systems	Managing Director
antennas	University of Exeter	msloan@technicalcompositesystems.co.uk
	• (customer) tbc	

The project consortium aims to develop, test and exploit new technologies to improve aircraft communication hardware. Structural composite materials and advanced surfacing technologies will reduce the mass of current systems.

NATEP Grant £145,115

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Automated	Pentaxia	Russ Meddes
Composite	 SHD Composites 	Business Development Director
Component	• TIA	russ.meddes@pentaxia.co.uk
Manufacture	Transcal Engineering (customer)Rolls-Royce plc (customer)	

Pentaxia looks to develop novel automation through robot preforming to help significantly reduce the labour content in aerospace components making the UK more competitive.

NATEP Grant £141,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
COP-E4	Weslake Air Services Ltd	John Lamberton
Combustion	 Aerospace Metal Composites Ltd 	Managing Director
Optimisation	EFI Ltd	
Program	Swift Air (customer)	John.lamberton@weslake.eu
	 Axter Aerospace (customer) 	
	Britten Norman Aircraft Ltd	
	(customer)	

The COP-E4 project will develop a novel heavy fuel powertrain for lightweight, safe and more fuel efficient aero-engines with significant reductions in cost and emissions.

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Hot Isostatic	Maher Ltd	Gerry Clark
Pressing of	Nikken Innovation Centre Europe Ltd	Managing Director
Titanium	Replicast Ltd	
Components	Westmoreland Testing & Research Ltd	gerry.clark@maher.com
(HIPNOTIC)	Airbus (customer)	

The aim of the project is to deliver component demonstrators for the Wing of Tomorrow programme led by Airbus. Novel technology delivered by a newly established local supply chain will be used to manufacture the components.

NATEP Grant £148,545

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Forging Near Net Shape Titanium Components	Maher Ltd Bifrangi UK	Gerry Clark Managing Director
(FRANTIC)	Westmoreland Testing & Research LtdThe Boeing Company (customer)	gerry.clark@maher.com

The FRANTIC project aims to establish a new supply chain in the UK for titanium aero structures. Using novel forging techniques to manufacture near net shape components will result in cost competitive solutions for the end user

NATEP Grant £97,040

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
HP1 Impact	HP1 Technologies Limited	Andrew Howes – Director
Classification System (HP1ICS)	 University of Central Lancashire Centre for Process Innovation (CPI) BAE Systems GKN Aerospace 	Andrew@hp1t.com

This project will develop a printable intelligent flexible, thin and durable sensor array that will collect and analyse data relating to impact events on aircraft.

NATEP Grant £149,926

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Thermoplastic	• Tribus-D Ltd	info@tribus-d.uk
Encapsulated Embedded	Ultrawise Innovation Ltd	
Power Modules (TEE-P)	• Leonardo MW Ltd	

Assembly processes for the power electronics modules are critical for efficiency, size, weight and costs. This project will maximise thermal dissipation and minimise circuit parasitics through advanced interconnection and device encapsulation techniques

NATEP Grant £37,200

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Low cost packages for	Semelab Ltd	Liam Mills – R&D Manager
semi-conductor devices	PandA Europe	liam.mills@semelab-tt.com
	AK Industries Ltd	
	GE Aviation Systems	

The project proposes to develop a recyclable high temperature polymer that can be moulded around a metal lead frame to produce a lower cost package alternative to traditional co-fired ceramic surface mount packages for current aerospace applications and future high temperature requirements

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Plastic Overmolded Dual	Semelab Ltd	Liam Mills – R&D Manager
Cooled Modules	Goodfellow Cambridge Ltd	liam.mills@semelab-tt.com
	Rolls-Royce plc	
Development of a novel, low profile, lightweight highly thermally efficient packaging scheme for power		

electronics.

NATEP Grant £148,563

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Chrome Replacement	Hardide Coatings Ltd	Dr Yuri Zhuk –Technical Director
Super Finish Technology	Perfect Bore Manufacturing	yzhuk@hardide.com
	Impcross Ltd (customer)	

Development of machining techniques to a chrome replacement coating applications on parts such as seal counter-bodies, erosion and high load bearings with complex geometries including internal bores.

NATEP Grant £150,000

Project	Supply chain partnership	Contact
Developing a new ultra-low	Hardide Coatings Ltd	Dr Yuri Zhuk –Technical Director
temperature Hardide coating	Westmoreland Testing &	yzhuk@hardide.com
	Research Ltd	
	Perfect Bore Manufacturing	
	Airbus (customer)	
	• Leonardo (customer)	

Development of, and characterisation of properties, of an ultra-low temperature CVD nano-structured tungsten/tungsten carbide based coating to increase wear, galling and corrosion resistance for low-tempering temperature steels. Providing an alternative to Hard Chrome, HVOF and other similar coatings on a wider range of materials.