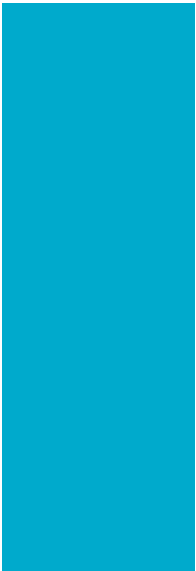


GRID CONNECTION SUPPORT SERIES

Business support and advisory services for UK SMEs



Access a series of support and advisory services available to UK SMEs operating in grid services and products

The Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Catapult is upgrading its research infrastructure through the installation of a grid emulation system, named 'eGrid', located at the National Renewable Energy Centre in Blyth, Northumberland.

As a result, ORE Catapult is offering business support services and assistance to UK SMEs seeking to grow and innovate in grid connection products and services, at no cost to participating companies.

Why participate in the Grid Connection Support Series?

A core function of ORE Catapult is to support small business growth and partner with academic institutions. The Grid Connection Support Series is a gateway to new opportunities for businesses to drive forward innovation, enter new markets and form collaborations that ultimately stimulate growth and enhance areas of research.

The series is designed to support any UK SMEs and academic institutions across grid connection, not just exclusively for those operating in renewable energy.

Who is eligible to participate in the Grid Connection Support Series?



UK SMALL TO MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

The Grid Connection Support Series has been established for UK SMEs seeking to innovate and grow, particularly those operating in the following areas:

- // Technology manufacturers and providers (renewables, grid hardware and software)
- // Grid support products and services (industrial and domestic)
- // Energy storage and automotive
- // Electric power systems and electric generators
- // Any grid connection related products or services



ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

The Grid Connection Support Series has a strong focus on academic collaboration and is open to institutions undertaking research in areas such as:

- // The development of grid-connected renewable energy technologies
- // Energy storage
- // Grid integration and simulation (Power Hardware In the Loop, both single and multi-site)



What is 'eGrid' and how is the Grid Connection Support Series funded?

eGrid is ORE Catapult's electric power converter system capable of performing grid emulation for a wide range of electrical testing. A physical asset located at ORE Catapult's site in Blyth, Northumberland, eGrid complements existing test assets for offshore renewable energy technology. ORE Catapult has secured funding to install eGrid, in part by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). As a result, ORE Catapult is able to provide UK SMEs and academic partners the Grid Connection Support Series, free-of-charge for up to 12 hours per participating organisation.

How the Grid Connection Support Series works

The Support Series will run until 2020, during this time, businesses and academia can access grid connection support services in the following ways:



1. Masterclass Series

Free to attend training, seminars and workshops organised or delivered by ORE Catapult



2. Innovation Challenge

Support to develop innovative services and products in response to needs and gaps identified by industry



3. Direct Business Support

One-to-one support for businesses either with ORE Catapult's specialists or relevant industry partners

Access 12 hours free-of-charge support and advisory services

Each participating company can access 12 hours free-of-charge support time with ORE Catapult. This includes the following services:

> Technical Advice and Assessment

Access specialist advice to support technology development, such as testing and validation, R&D, design and demonstration

> Business Support

Facilitating introductions to academic and industry partners, as well as market insights and business plan support

> Funding and Investment Support

Receive advice on the range of funding available, relevant funding bodies and how to apply to receive funding

> Regulatory and Compliance Guidance

Learn about the latest industry guidance directly from a range of grid connection experts

Contact us

To speak directly to a member of our team about the Grid Connection Support Series, please contact:

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Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult

ORE Catapult is the UK's flagship technology innovation and research centre for offshore wind, wave and tidal energy.

We work closely with partners from across industry and academia, and use our world-leading test and demonstration facilities, to develop new ways of working and prove, de-risk and develop promising new technologies.

This helps to reduce the cost of offshore renewable energy, supporting business growth and delivering UK economic benefit.

We have over 150 staff and our multi-disciplined team of highly qualified engineers and technical specialists have in-depth experience of renewable energy technologies. As a leader in technology and sector development, ORE Catapult provides support and guidance to government departments including the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and has a formal technology advisory role to The Crown Estate's Scotland Portfolio for the offshore wind and marine sectors.

We have four sites:



Inovo, Glasgow

Engineering, programme management, marine projects, bid support services



Fife Renewables Innovation Centre (FRIC), Fife

Test asset, engineering, training



National Renewable Energy Centre, Blyth

Test facilities, research, engineering and training



O&M Centre of Excellence, Hull

Operations and maintenance, and industry collaboration

In addition, we have regional engagement coordinators who operate in the South West, South Coast, Wales, and East of England.



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

European Regional Development Fund 2014-2020

The project allows for an upgrade of research infrastructure by the installation of an electric power converter system, eGrid. eGrid provides a platform for electrical power quality research and testing in a controlled environment in Blyth. The project is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund.