

Keeping you updated on news & events from the Sorby Nano Centre

The University of Sheffield has a number of initiatives that are available to companies who want to engage in the knowledge transfer process. The Sheffield Engineering Gateway Project, the Advanced Materials Innovation Network and the Knowledge Transfer Account Project are examples of these initiatives. They are designed to promote knowledge transfer from the University to industry; they are aimed at encouraging economic growth and increasing profitability for companies.

Sheffield Engineering Gateway Project

Sheffield Engineering Gateway (SEG) project is a dedicated first point of contact for businesses seeking to find solutions to their engineering requirements. The Sheffield Engineering Gateway is embedded within the Faculty of Engineering which consists of all the major engineering disciplines. As a result the Sheffield Engineering Gateway is able to guide you to the relevant research group to find practical solutions to your needs.

Benefits to industry are:

- Flexible routes to obtaining R&D that will suit a range of expenditure.
- Co-ordinated project management.
- Facilitate knowledge transfer into your business to help in the innovation of new products and processes thereby giving you the commercial edge.
- Access to all your engineering requirements through the Faculty of Engineering.
- Access to University expertise via a cost effective open innovation process.
- Ability to use the Business Link innovation voucher scheme to initiate R&D within your company.
- Address the gaps that Knowledge Transfer Partnerships do not fill.

To access the SEG project, contact SEG Manager Neale Daniel on 0114 2229724.

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Advanced Materials Innovation Network

January 2010 sees the launch of the Advanced Materials Innovation Network (AMIN). This innovative network will be focused on facilitating the Advanced Engineering and Materials (AEM) community in Yorkshire and Humberside.

Benefits to industry are:

- An increased culture of collaboration and open innovation across Yorkshire and Humberside.
- Companies collaborating with each other and using their knowledge base to introduce innovative products, processes and services into new and existing markets.
- Increasing the participation by regional companies in regional, national and European schemes to encourage innovation and collaborative R&D.

The Advanced Materials Innovation Network will be hosting a launch event on Thursday 21st January 2010, further details will follow. For more information on this network, contact Dr Martin Highett, [Sorby Nano Centre](#) Manager on 0114 2225981.

Knowledge Transfer Account (KTA) Project

The University of Sheffield has received £6 million from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) to facilitate and improve the transfer of the University's engineering and physical sciences research to business and industry. The University's Knowledge Transfer Account (KTA) programme will be centred on two interdependent work packages, with a focus on the 'point of contact' between the academic researcher and the end user. KTA funding will bring about a step change in the way in which commercial opportunities are identified, supported, facilitated and consolidated through such relationships.

More information can be found at:

[Find out more about the KTA infrastructure](#)

[Find out more about the 4 flagship projects](#)

[KTA funding applications](#)

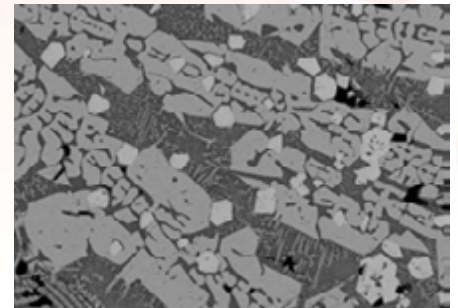


Customer Profile

Roderick Mackenzie is a freelance archaeological scientist. He uses the facilities at the Sorby Nano Investigation Centre to investigate historic and pre-historic metals and industrial process residues from archaeological sites.

In a recent project using the Sorby Nano Investigation Centre, analysis of metals and slag from a former ironworks identified production processes that were not mentioned in any previous historical records.

The image below shows the microstructure of one of the pieces of the diagnostic residue.



Instrument Profile

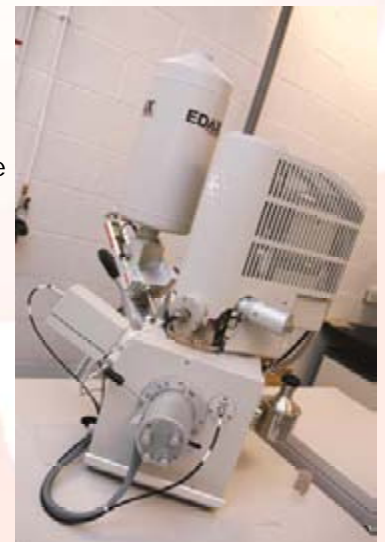
Inspect™ F Scanning Electron Microscope

This cost-effective, flexible, state-of-the-art scanning electron microscope is built using FEI's advanced technology, this makes the microscope invaluable when working with material characterization and inspection applications.

[View our full equipment portfolio.](#)

Benefits of the Inspect F

- Has a large scope to analyse a variety of specimen's sizes.
- Quick turnaround on specimen analysis.
- Produces quick and easy to read electronic data.
- Able to reach high magnification due to field emission gun.
- EDS chemical analysis.



Past events

**EMAG, 8 – 11 September
2009 - University of
Sheffield, UK**

Sorby Nano exhibited at the [EMAG \(Electron Microscopy and Analysis Group\)](#) conference in September. The Conference, titled 'Microscopy - the nanoscale and beyond' took place in Sheffield, the home of Sorby Nano.



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Contact us - For further information on any of our services please contact:

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Innovation Vouchers – Business Link

Q. Want to access microscopy equipment & expertise?

A. [Apply for Business Link Innovation Vouchers](#)

Funded by Yorkshire Forward, Innovation Vouchers provide small to medium sized businesses (SMEs)

in the region, with financial support to engage with Yorkshire's universities and other academic institutions to help their business grow and develop. Vouchers up to the value of £3000 can be used to defray the cost of contracting specialist services from the regions knowledge base.



Past events

**Medical Innovation Forum, 2 December 2009 –
Harrogate International Centre, UK**

The [Medical Innovation Forum](#) is the premier UK networking event for all those with an interest in health technologies to discuss innovations, fast-track technology transfer and seek funding/licensing agreements. Innovation in the MedTech sector is driven by the quest to address unmet clinical needs, combining cutting edge R&D, product design and core manufacturing capabilities. Sorby Nano Centre Manager Dr Martin Highett hosted a discussion Group on Materials and Nanotechnology. The discussion group attracted a wide range of participants from both the knowledge base and commercial sector with a lively discussion on patient health and the chemical/physical properties of nano materials in the health sector.

