

Press release: £100m boost for UK space sector to ensure UK is equipped to stay ahead of the competition

- £99m of government funding for a National Satellite Testing Facility on the Harwell Campus in Oxfordshire
- additional £4m announced for a National Space Propulsion Facility to develop and test space engines
- space sector forms a key part of the Government's Industrial Strategy to spread economic growth across the UK

The £100m package includes £99m of Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund investment to create a National Satellite Testing Facility (NSTF) on the Harwell Campus in Oxfordshire, alongside a £4m investment for a new National Space Propulsion Facility to develop and test space engines at Wescott Venture Park in Buckinghamshire.

Part of the Government's Industrial Strategy, the significant funding boost will enable UK industry to competitively bid for more national and international contracts and ensure we remain a world-leader for space technologies for decades to come.

Visiting the UK Space Gateway on the Harwell Campus in Oxfordshire, where the NSTF will be based, Universities and Science Minister Jo Johnson said:

"From Cornwall to the Highlands and islands of Scotland, the UK space sector underpins industries worth more than £250 billion to the UK economy, and through our Industrial Strategy we will unlock the sector's potential to grow further.

"Located in a cluster known for research excellence, these new facilities will help UK companies be more competitive in the global market for space technology and support our ambition to capture 10% of the global space market by 2030."

Due to open in early 2020, the new NSTF will be a world-class facility for the assembly, integration and testing of space instruments and satellites, positioning the UK to capitalise on the estimated 3,500 -10,000 satellites that are due to be launched by 2025. It will also facilitate the build of bigger and more technologically advanced satellites and remove the need for UK companies to use test facilities located abroad.

The NSPF will allow companies and academia to test and develop space propulsion engines, alongside a new facility for Reaction Engines where the revolutionary SABRE air-breathing rocket engine will also be tested and built.

Dr Graham Turnock, Chief Executive of the UK Space Agency, said:

This investment will enhance the capability of the UK space industry. Having access to a National Satellite Testing Facility will help companies develop and encourage new business to come the UK, while the development of new facilities at Westcott builds on what is already a world-class UK space propulsion sector.

Dr Brian Bowsher, Chief Executive of the Science and Technology Facilities Council, said:

STFC's RAL Space team has been chosen as the delivery organisation for this investment and our staff will be responsible for the definition, design, building, fit out and operation of the facility. This is fantastic recognition of the strong reputation we have in the UK and overseas as the go-to team for the assembly, integration and testing of the incredibly complex and unique engineering involved in space payloads and satellites.

Press release: Foreign Secretary statement on the 22nd anniversary of the Srebrenica Genocide

Today [11 July] is the 22nd anniversary of the massacre in Srebrenica that claimed the lives of more than 8,000 men and boys, amounting to the bloodiest act of mass murder in Europe since the Second World War. The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Court of Justice ruled that it was genocide.

It is right that we should pause to remember those who died at Srebrenica – and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina – and to reflect on the consequences of hatred and bigotry. And we should also look forward to the task of building a better future for Bosnia and Herzegovina. That is why the UK supports essential reforms designed to create jobs and defeat crime and corruption. I call on the leaders of all sides to work together in a spirit of co-operation and reconciliation. Britain stands with those who wish to build a peaceful, united and prosperous future.

News story: Priti Patel statement on the liberation of Mosul

International Development Secretary comments on the liberation of Mosul, following the Iraqi Prime Minister's formal declaration.

International Development Secretary Priti Patel said:

"The liberation of Mosul after two years of Daesh brutality and oppression comes at a high price for both the Iraqi Security Forces and the city's people and I pay tribute to the tenacity and courage they have shown.

"Throughout this struggle, UK aid provided shelter, medical care, clean water and other lifesaving aid to those who have lost their homes because of the fighting or been forced to flee the city for safety.

"The declaration that Mosul is once again free is a great victory for the people of Iraq, but it must now be backed up by the painstaking task of rebuilding and reconciling so families can return home as quickly as possible. The UK will continue to stand alongside the people of Iraq to take this vital work forward in the weeks and months ahead – and helping to shore up stability and security across the region is ultimately in our national interest as well."

Notice: HA1 4TY, Kodak Alaris Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publishes surrenders that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the surrender letter, decision document and site condition report evaluation template for:

- Operator name: Kodak Alaris Limited
 - Installation name: Harrow Combined Heat and Power Plant
 - Permit number: EPR/KP3931NL/S003
-

Notice: SK6 2QE, Pure Clean Waste Solutions Ltd: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Pure Clean Waste Solutions Ltd
- Installation name: Bredbury Waste Oil Recovery Facility
- Permit number: EPR/JP3031CY/V003