

# Wales' first science park to 'SParc' innovation and business growth

Menai Science Park (M-SParc), which is situated within the Anglesey Enterprise Zone, brings together business from the ICT, science and research sectors, encouraging knowledge sharing and a creative, supportive environment to help businesses grow.

As part of Bangor University, M-SParc bridges the gap between cutting edge academic research and businesses. The park's 30-year vision is based on creating highly skilled jobs for local people, developing a knowledge-sharing environment and creating an economic hub in sectors such as low carbon, energy and environment and ICT.

The 5000 sq. mt. three-storey science park, constructed to BREEAM Excellence standards, hosts a state-of-the-art laboratory, office and workshop space, and meeting rooms – as well as a café where employees from across the science park and students from Bangor University can meet to share knowledge and ideas.

Officially opening the science park, First Minister Carwyn Jones said:

“This cutting edge science park, supported with £20m of Welsh Government and European funding, is an excellent example of collaboration between Welsh Government and Bangor University – working together to drive innovation, entrepreneurship and business growth.

“It is great to see local businesses and companies from further afield choosing M-SParc as their business base. It is a facility that is full of energy and innovation, supported by an enthusiastic team who work with tenants to help their businesses grow.

“The science park offers a unique mix of business support, commercial expertise and academic support. I look forward to this successful combination continuing to bring more top companies and well paid jobs to North Wales.”

During the event, Managing Director for M-SParc Pryderi ap Rhisiart said:

“We want to attract the brightest and the best from the region, that's what M-SParc is all about. At the moment, Wales loses companies who outgrow their facilities, and have to go across the border to relocate, M-SParc aims to stop this. Many of the businesses are local, but we also have some inward investment, and some new companies who are establishing themselves on M-SParc.”

Prof. John G. Hughes, University Vice Chancellor said

“We work together with companies to ensure spin-outs and commercial research from the University can find a home at M-SParc. It is encouraging to see the uptake this early on, and the aim now will be to continue to support companies based at M-SParc, and encourage graduates to see that there are prospects in North Wales, and high-level jobs are being created in the region.”