

Loughborough University (LU) Space Incubator

The Loughborough University (LU) Space Incubator programme is for start-up companies and Small, Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) new to the space sector.

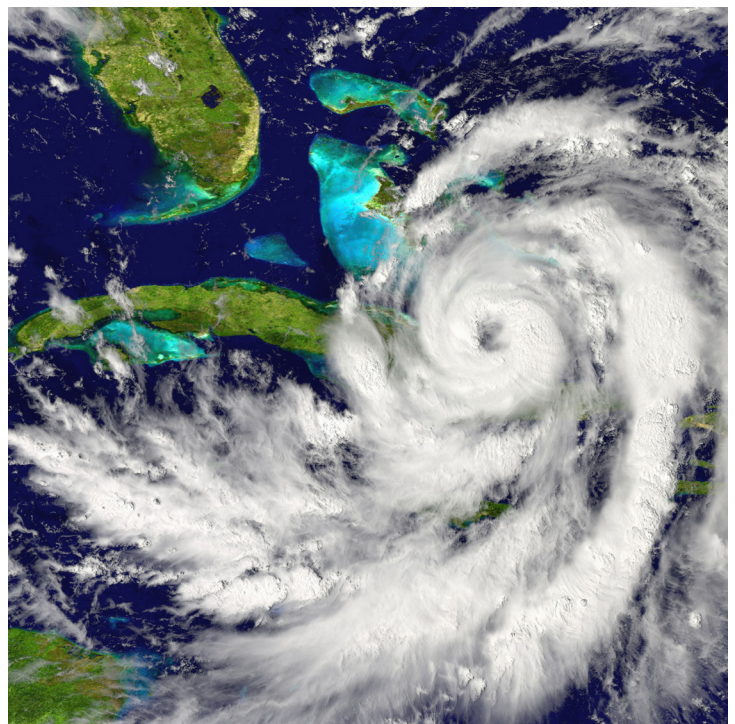
Working in partnership with the UK Space Agency, the LU Space Incubator provides support for businesses across the breadth of the sector including both upstream and downstream (using space-enabled data and services).

The LU Space Incubator is one of 7 being supported by the Agency, all offering a different mix of support and aiming to share ideas and best practice.

Support package includes

- Free business review, to include market assessment and business diagnostic.
- Signposting and introductions to appropriate sources of support and expertise, local and national.
- Support to access local and national networks.
- Affordable accommodation or virtual tenancy in the Advanced Technology Innovation Centre (ATIC)¹.

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Launching a new business venture can be both exciting and demanding. Joining a cluster of like-minded individuals will help you gain the experience, knowledge and contacts that you need to succeed.
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How to access support

Support from the LU Space Incubator programme starts with an initial review meeting with an Innovation Advisor. This meeting will cover the following.

- **Eligibility and state aid declaration** – this will confirm that your business is eligible for support from the programme.
- **Initial business review** – this will enable your advisor to gain an understanding of your proposition and how 'mature' your plans are.
- **An assessment of business support actions required.**
This will identify and prioritise your support requirements and determine the nature of the support you wish to receive from the LU Space Incubator.

If you wish to proceed with a more in depth business review, a market/technology research overview, signposting and introduction support, or on-going coaching support then you will be able to agree a plan with your Advisor.

If you wish to proceed with funded support to access local and national networks or affordable accommodation in ATIC then you will need to follow a simple application process. Your Advisor will be able to discuss this with you after your initial review meeting.

When you have completed your programme of support you will be asked to provide feedback. This will be shared (anonymously) with UK Space Agency and the other incubators to inform future incubation programmes.

¹ The Advanced Technology Innovation Centre (ATIC) on Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park (LUSEP) offers accommodation and business development services with access to the expertise and facilities of a leading university.

Space in the ATIC – space cluster

The LU Space Incubator programme aims to develop a local cluster of start-up companies in the space sector. Support for members of this cluster includes:

ATIC accommodation and virtual tenancy

The Advanced Technology Innovation Centre (ATIC) offers business accommodation for knowledge-based businesses. The LU Space Incubator programme has two offerings for businesses wishing to base themselves at ATIC.

- Affordable accommodation in the Rent-a-desk unit – a dedicated space in a shared unit.
- Virtual Tenancy – membership of the LUSEP community and use of the ATIC for your postal address and/or registered office.

www.lusep.co.uk/atic



UKspace SME Forum

UKspace is a UK space industry trade association. The SME Forum is focused on the needs of SMEs and provides a low-cost route to a range of expertise and resource for a vital part of the space industrial community. Members can be introduced to industry, finance and government, and key contacts in Europe. Further benefits include networking at industry events and access to technical support and advice. Forum membership can help businesses tap into national and sector specific support and markets.

LU Space Incubator programme can offer 6 months funded membership of UKspace SME Forum. As the funding is limited we will be looking for businesses that are most able to benefit from their membership over a 6 month period. Businesses interested in applying for this support will need to review the information on UKspace SME Forum website and identify how they hope to benefit from their membership. Successful applicants will be asked to provide feedback at the end of the 6 months.

www.ukspace.org/space-organisations/smeforum

LATi

LATi is a local networking group for scientific and high-technology businesses. Members include major multi-national companies, SMEs, university departments, business support organisations and private individuals.

Membership of LATi gives you an opportunity to mix with local technologists, scientists, engineers and business people from a range of sectors. It can help a business tap into local support leading to collaborative working, technology and know-how exchange and continuous professional development.

LU Space Incubator programme can offer up to 12 months funded membership of LATi. As the funding is limited we will be looking for businesses that are most able to benefit from their membership. Businesses interested in applying for this support will need to review the information on LATi website and identify how they hope to benefit from their membership. Successful applicants will be asked to provide feedback at the end of their funded membership period.

<http://lati.org.uk>

Get in touch:

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