

NPL North of England – Manufacturer Measurement Network news 26/6/2019

The NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network (MMN) was set up in 2016 as a way for NPL to support local manufacturers. Throughout the past year, the MMN has been expanding – as well as the usual quarterly events held in Huddersfield, it has also hosted events in Liverpool and Edinburgh, and we will soon be heading to Silverstone.

First event in Scotland

On 23 April, we held our first MMN event in Scotland. The ‘Space Technology’ event was held at the UK Royal Observatory in Edinburgh, in partnership with the Science & Technology Facilities Council. It was an incredible venue to hold an event in, with some fantastic views of Edinburgh and the surrounding areas.

We heard from speakers from NPL, Skyrora, Alba Orbital, the STFC Astronomy Technology Centre, and the Scottish Centre of Excellence in Satellite Applications (SoXSA), about the companies and some of the challenges they have faced in the Space industry - and about the support available, and how these challenges can be overcome.

Ahead of the event, attendees had the chance to take a tour of the Observatory and view books from the ‘Crawford Collection,’ one of the most extensive and valuable astronomical libraries in the world, featuring works by Newton, Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo and others.

Second Liverpool event

The MMN held its second Liverpool event on 18th June, Additive Manufacturing, in collaboration with Liverpool John Moores University. Professor Ahmed Al-Shamma'a (Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering & Technology) opened the evening and accepted an MMN membership certificate on behalf of the university.

We heard from a great mix of speakers, including:

- Croft Filters, Where Additive Manufacturing has taken us - the Journey of an SME
- LJMU, Correlating Manufacturing Strategies to material properties
- University of Huddersfield, Integrated Metrology for Additive Manufactured Components in Advanced Industrial Applications
- MTC, NDT Standards for AM
- Plus a local funding update from Made Smarter

The event was "a real success, with clear and strong synergies between NPL, LJMU, University of Huddersfield, and MTC. The event demonstrated how we can work together to better support SME companies."

MMN webpage: <http://npl.co.uk/mmn>

Upcoming events: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/npl-mmn-event-robotics-automation-tickets-58978152241>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/npl-mmn-event-emerging-technologies-tickets-64165028327>