

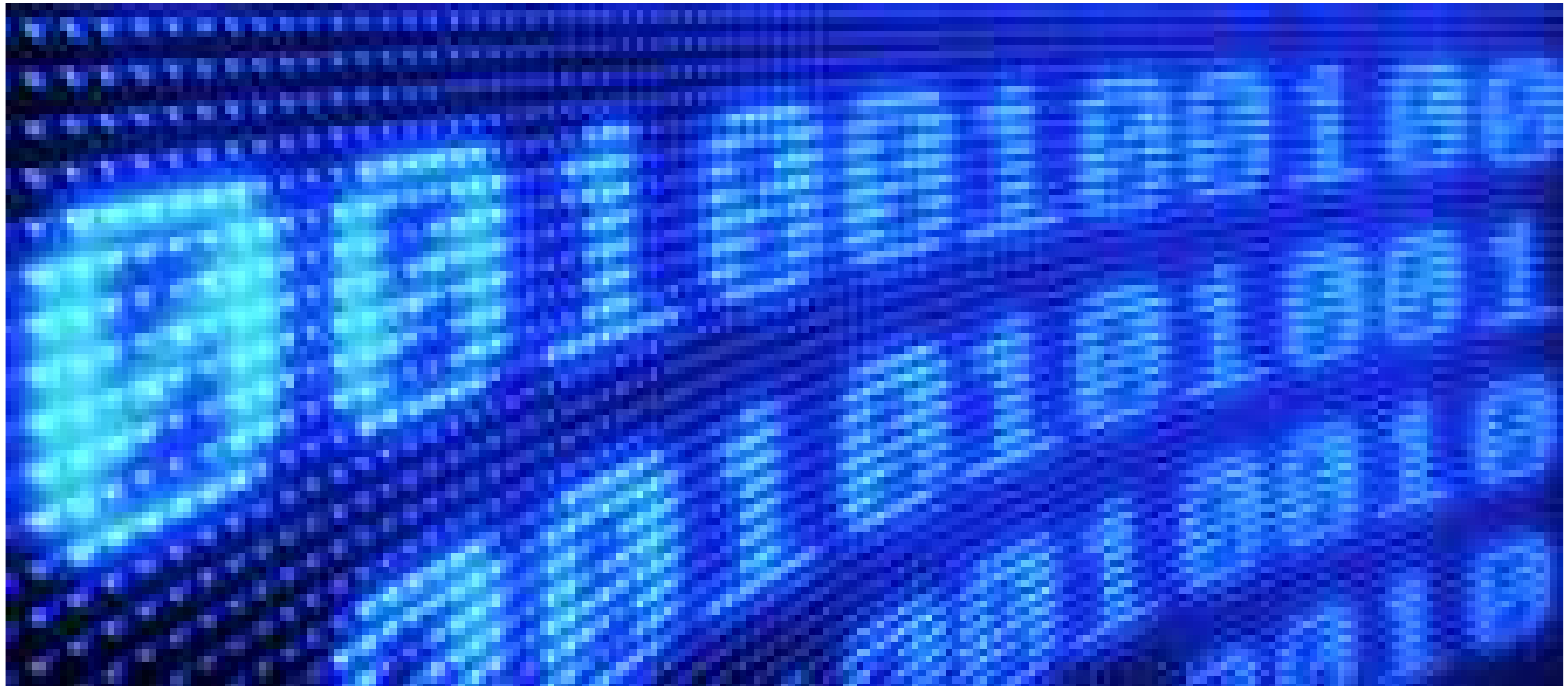


Digital Communications

- the role of the Knowledge Transfer Network

Philip Hargrave
CEO & Network Director

Creating a competitive advantage for the UK
by facilitating the exchange of knowledge on Digital Communications technologies
and accelerating innovation



Digital Communications

- A Key enabler of telecommunications, broadcasting and ICT.



- A transformational technology in areas such as transport, education, health, energy and the environment.
- Fundamental to all knowledge-based economies.
 - ICT is now widely acknowledged as accounting for approximately one quarter of the growth in GDP in the EU and USA.

Contribution to UK Economy

- In 2006 the UK communications industry had a turnover of £50.4 Billion.
- Figures from the Office of National Statistics suggest that telecoms, broadcasting and the content-related components of the creative industries contribute over three times as much as the UK's electricity, gas and water supply industries combined in terms of Gross Value Added (GVA).
- The UK is a world leader in IT intensive sectors such as financial services, with IT representing 55% of the UK's GVA.
- It is estimated that the continued adoption and exploitation of ICT could generate £35 Billion of GVA to the UK economy over the next five to seven years.



Global ICT Spending – US\$ Billion

	2000	2005	2008	CAGR
Communications	\$1,167	\$1,505	\$1,787	5.5 %
Computer Services	\$473	\$677	\$904	8.4%
Computer Hardware	\$441	\$493	\$640	4.8%
Computer Software	\$178	\$289	\$400	10.7%
Total	\$2,259	\$2,963	\$3,731	6.5%

Source: OECD based on data developed by Global Insight as published by the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) and presented in *Software and Information: Driving the Global Knowledge Economy. Software and Information Industry Association. 2008.*

Digital
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Knowledge Transfer Network

The Digital Communications KTN

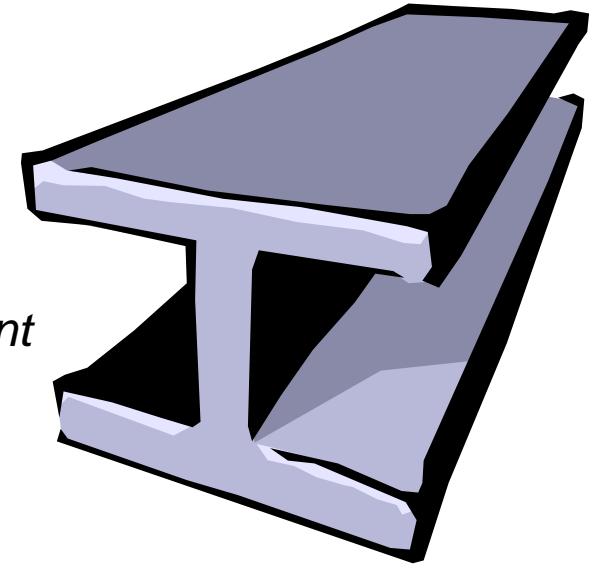


The *Digital Communications Knowledge Transfer Network* has been established, with funding from the Technology Strategy Board, to bring a competitive advantage to the UK by facilitating the exchange of knowledge on Digital Communications technologies and accelerating innovation.



Building on UK strengths

- Globally-leading Operators & Broadcasters
 - The EPSRC, whilst compiling data for a report on the Software, Media and Communications sector concluded that *“the UK is the business centre of Europe for the world’s leading telecommunications companies and has the most competitive environment in Europe for all telecommunication products and services”* .
- World-class Research Base
 - The panel undertaking the 2006 International review of UK university research in ICT concluded that UK University CS and EEE Departments are *“doing exciting, high quality research that is world class”*.
- Forward-looking converged Regulator
- Well-acknowledged service & creative sectors
- Government commitment to the science base
- Entrepreneurial capabilities



Against a background of concern

- International competition is fierce with large investments being made by competitors in research and the training of personnel.
- An Economist Intelligence Unit report recently placed the UK fourth of 64 countries in terms of a positive environment for IT, behind the US, Japan and South Korea.
 - The UK rated lowest of the top four for research and innovation.
- The failure of the UK to gain the full economic value of its research.
 - As observed by Richard Lambert in his 2003 report on the university/industry interface and recently re-iterated by Sean Finnan, President of Intellect.
- The industry is facing a potential recruitment crisis
 - The recently published e-skills report "IT and Telecoms Insights 2008" reported that 22 per cent of IT and telecommunications companies have difficulties in attracting candidates with the right skills.
 - There has been a marked reduction in the number of students taking relevant degrees.



Aims of the Digital Communications KTN

- To improve industrial performance through collaboration.
 - Between Digital Communications businesses and the science-base.
 - Across the sectors for which Digital Communications is an underpinning technology.
- To facilitate innovation and knowledge transfer.
 - By providing UK businesses with the opportunity to meet and network with key individuals and organisations from within the UK and overseas.



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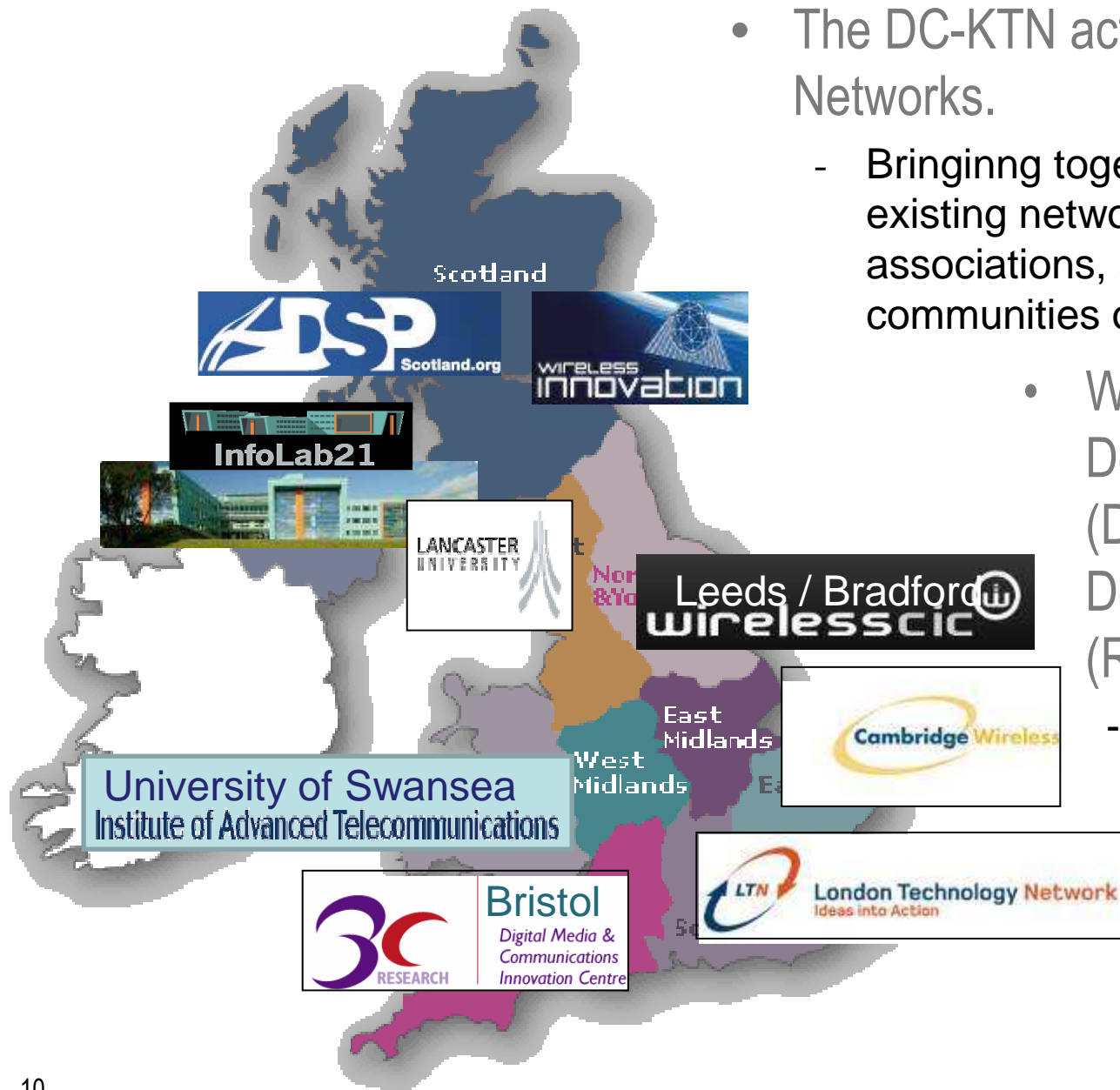
Aims of the Digital Communications KTN

- To provide a forum for a coherent business voice.
 - Informing government of its technology needs.
 - Advising on issues and regulatory matters that have the potential to impact technological innovation in the UK.
- To encourage increased inward investment.
 - Supporting the growth of the UK based activities of global companies involved in Digital Communications technologies and services.
- To promote Digital Communications as a vibrant and rewarding sector in which to work.
 - Illustrating the career potential that the sector can offer.
 - Attracting potential students into the discipline.



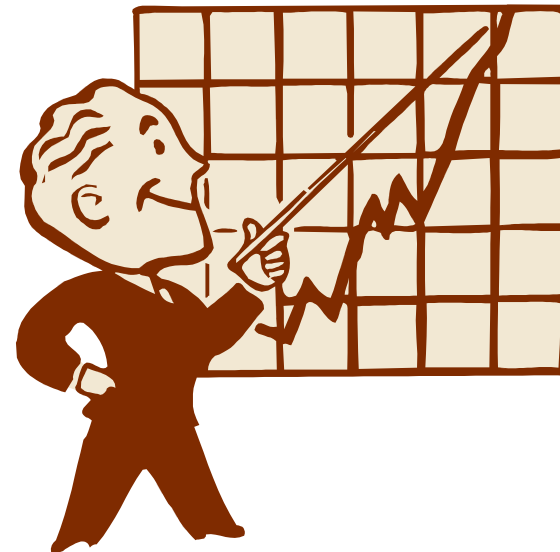
A Network of Networks

- The DC-KTN acts as a Network of Networks.
 - Bringinng together a large number of existing networks, including industry associations, support organisations, and communities of interest.
 - Working alongside the Devolved Administrations (DAs) and Regional Development Agencies (RDAs).
 - All view Digital Communications as being central to their economic strategies.



Delivery mechanisms

- A range of meetings and workshops are key delivery instruments of the DC-KTN.
 - These depend heavily for effectiveness on co-operation with existing networks.
 - A clear link between meetings and highly visible outcomes is key to their success.
- The DC-KTN's website and electronic newsletters are also be prime vehicles for communicating with members and reporting on progress.



Strategic priorities

- Broadband – next generation access
- UK participation in Framework Programme 7
- UK R&D ranking
- Digital Communications benchmarking missions
- Preparedness for UK Web 2.0 and beyond
- Security and identity management
- Support for Digital UK: transport, education, health, energy and environment
- Year 2012: from broadcast to broadband
- Digital Communications skills
- Payment systems in a Digital Communications world
- Investors
- Broadcast and the role of the internet
- Radio spectrum

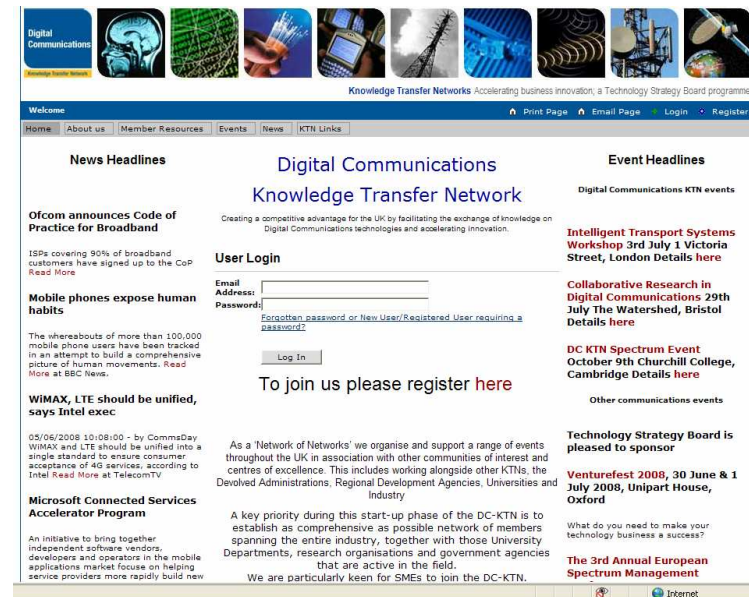


Forthcoming activities

- Collaborative research in Digital Communications.
 - Bristol 29 July 2008, in association with 3C Research, to present the value of collaboration in building long-term relationships and showcase examples of successful projects.
- A Smart Care Distributed Environment
 - London, 7 August, in association with the Health Technologies KTN, to introduce the TSB Competition for Funding under the Assisted Living Innovation Platform.
- Framework Programme 7 – An Introduction
 - London, September 2008, a workshop for newcomers to EU FP 7.
- Spectrum event.
 - Cambridge, 9 October 2008, delivered through Cambridge Wireless to consider whether the spectrum available in the UK will meet current and future needs.
- Framework Programme 7 – Raising the game
 - London, October 2008, a workshop for those serious about raising their game in time for the first call under the new ICT FP7 Work Programme.
- A Fine Balance
 - London, November 27 in association with the Sensors & Instrumentation, Cyber Security and Location & Timing KTNs, to consider real world experience in using Privacy Enhancing Technologies.

Membership

- Key to the success of the Digital Communications KTN is the establishment of a network of members that spans the entire value chain.
 - Universities
 - Solution providers
 - System integrators
 - Network operators
 - Service providers
 - Broadcasters
 - Those working in adjacent sectors for which Digital Communications is a transformational technology.
- Registration and membership are free.



Visit www.dcktn.org.uk to Register

Join us online at:

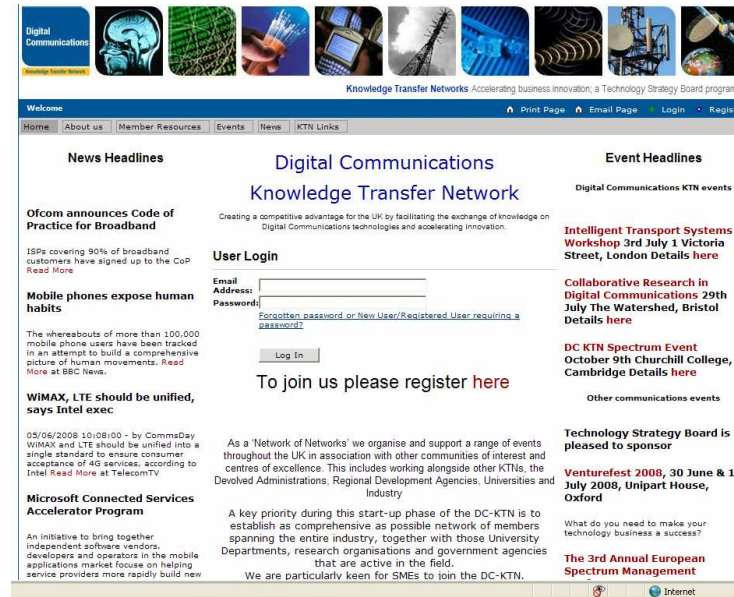
www.dcktn.org.uk

Or by e-mail:

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Or by post at:

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Registration and membership are free

Tell us what you'd like us to do. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

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