
Faculty of Engineering & Design
Department of Mechanical Engineering
The external integrated project: a guide for industry



Our students add value
Partner with us to benefit



Develop the next generation of engineers

We're looking for industrial partners to work with our students and benefit from their knowledge on our External Integrated Projects (EIPs).



External integrated projects

The EIP is a four to six-month placement that focuses on a commercial topic relative to your company. Our MEng (Hons) students carry out the project in the second semester of their third year on courses in:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Automotive Engineering
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Integrated Mechanical and Electrical Engineering
- Integrated Design Engineering

Our students bring technical and transferable skills, fresh ideas and enthusiasm to your company.

What can our students help you with?

Our students have worked on projects diverse in both focus and scope. Previous projects have taken place across many industrial sectors. However, the project needs to:

- be a single-focused project on the application of engineering and design
- contain some aspects of business or commercial considerations
- be performed within a larger team
- allow students to participate in some level of project management

A one-page project overview needs to be completed and agreed before the project begins.

Why Bath?

Our Department of Mechanical Engineering has an international reputation for producing outstanding graduate students. This is achieved through a combination of high-quality teaching, industrial collaboration and world leading research. We work with industry to develop courses that give our students the critical skills required to be first-rate engineers.

Key benefits to your organisation

Recruitment: maintain links with existing placement students or identify new potential graduate recruits.

Add value: employ a new member of the team for a specific project/topic to make a real contribution to your company.

New ideas: our students bring a new independent perspective for fresh insights.

Staff development: an opportunity for experienced engineers to train and mentor inquisitive students.

“Over the past 11 years the University of Bath EIP students have helped to substantially move our technology and business capabilities forward. Furthermore, I regularly come across Rolls Royce Engineers for whom an EIP was an important stepping stone.”

Gary Davis
Defence Sector Capability Manager – Lifting
Rolls Royce

Important dates

The EIP takes place each year at the following key dates:

November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project scope agreed• Contracts signed
End of year	
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 week business process course• Project starts (mid-Feb onwards)
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business process coursework due• Scoping report deadline
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance assessment & final report deadline• End of project and summary presentation

Recruiting a student

Many companies invite previous placement students back for further investigations on an EIP. However, we advertise potential EIPs internally to all third-year students. They can then apply directly through conventional recruitment channels or we can provide you with a list of potential candidates.

Other information

Our students must be based at your company for the whole of the project. An academic supervisor will usually visit your company at least once during the project. They will also be available throughout to provide feedback and discuss any issues. Most companies pay students at an equivalent rate of between £14-25k a year. We can also provide non-disclosure agreements for projects based on commercially sensitive data.

Start a conversation

If you would like to discuss how our students could benefit your business, please get in touch.

Dr Sam Bull
scb72@bath.ac.uk
go.bath.ac.uk/external-integrated-project



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