



Meet the Buyer 2015

12 May 2015
Central London

SMMT's 9th Meet the Buyer event has been announced and will take place in partnership with UKTI's Automotive Investment Organisation (AIO) for a second year.

We are now accepting expressions of interest for the next event.

SMMT and AIO will jointly host the 2015 event to support sourcing activities within the UK, and encourage inward investment in processes not currently supported within the UK.

Buyers at past events have included: Aisin Europe, Allard Motor Cars, Aston Martin, Brose, Faurecia, Ford, Lear Corp, Nissan and TATA Motors.

To begin the event process, now is your opportunity to register your interest in the event. Please note that attendance to the event is by invitation only and to be considered for the event, you must register your interest via the online form:

<http://meetthebuyer.autosupplierfinder.com/>



SMMT publishes new Funding, Finance and Support Guide

The new version of the SMMT Funding, Finance and Support Guide, featuring a new and easy to navigate content page is now available.

The Guide contains over 140 schemes organised into European, National and Regional schemes which are also cross referenced by type and category. The document has been designed for SMMT members and non-members to find relevant schemes in a less time-consuming manner.

Please see below for a range of newly added funding opportunities that may be useful for your business needs:

- **Employer Ownership: developing women engineers** – the second of three planned funding calls designed to support companies to offer training that will bring women into the engineering profession at any stage of their career and to increase the potential of women to advance in an engineering career.
- **Luminate Project** – Funding for SME's in the East Midlands pursuing projects be related to innovation in transport equipment and infrastructure (products, processes and services).
- **Black Country GOLD** – The programme is currently inviting SMEs to apply for up to £16,000 to aid expansion projects providing business development support and financial assistance to small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) in the region.
- **North East Business Support Fund** – The fund provides access to support for the businesses by providing 40% funding, for business improvement or growth projects.
- **Skills Growth Wales** – funding up to an average of £2,500 per individual for training that will directly help bring about growth and employment opportunities.

To access the list of schemes please visit SMMT [website](http://www.smmt.co.uk). If you have any enquiries please contact memberservices@smmt.co.uk.

Toolmaker fired up to grow after investment



SMMT member, HCM Engineering, has completed a £500,000 investment programme as it prepares to mark its 45th anniversary with plans to double in size.

The company designs and manufactures tools primarily for aluminium, zinc and moulding companies, with a strong focus on the automotive sector.

The company is committed to adding value and reducing skill gaps with continued training and development of its current staff and investing in local young people with an apprenticeship programme, along with the investment of new technology.

They are now targeting a doubling of turnover over the next five years as a result of major investments, including phase one installation of two new state-of-the-art CNC machines, leading edge measuring facilities and a complete overhaul of the company's IT platform and upgrading of logistics.

The growth strategy leading to the investment and training investment plan was supported by the Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) who helped the company determine the plan for the next five years and to access MAS and Regional Growth Fund funding (RGF).

Rachel Eade, Automotive Supply Chain Lead at MAS, said: "HCM has made a clear investment in its own future, not just through the investment in the new machinery and processes, but also in its people.

"Its bespoke apprenticeship programme should be an inspiration to others and shows how investing in people can make such a difference."

The Regional Growth Fund is a £3.2 billion Government-backed initiative which has so far helped more than 400 individual projects across the country to raise private sector investment to create economic growth and sustainable employment.

www.hcmeng.co.uk

Free webinar: Advanced Propulsion Centre – how to get involved

Wednesday 17 December

10:30 – 11:30

[Register here](#)

The Advanced Propulsion Centre was formed in 2013 from a commitment between the government and automotive industry through the Automotive Council to position the UK as a global centre of excellence for low carbon powertrain development and production.

The "How to get involved" webinar will be presented by Jon Beasley (Director – Technology and Project, Advanced Propulsion Centre). Jon will cover what APC wants to achieve and how they could help you bring your low carbon propulsion technology to market.

www.apcuk.co.uk



SMMT Member

CoolKit have achieved Investors in People status and demonstrate their commitment to realising people potential!

Based in Lancashire, CoolKit has been trading since 2005 and now employs 25 people, supplying a full range of refrigerated vans, van conversions and associated products including their own range of vehicle lining kits and mobile after-sales support engineers.

After working with Investors in People North of England to explore the Framework, the company is now delighted to have achieved Investors in People accreditation this summer.

Commenting on their success, Rupert Gatty, Managing Director at CoolKit said: "We are very proud of this latest achievement. Having empowered our management team, and having shared our vision, values and strategy for success with all our people, it is clear that we now have a much stronger company, and this is reflected in our best-ever results."

For further information, please call Alicia Threlfall on 0845 459 5418 or e-mail alicia@coolkit.org



SMMT Member

TRP is a specialist designer and manufacturer of rubber mouldings, seals and gaskets for use in a wide range of applications.

As part of its continuous investment in technology plant and equipment TRP has recently installed a £100,000 cold feed 90mm extruder.

This year has seen TRP add two new 700 ton computer controlled moulding machines a new laboratory press and has placed an order for a new ram extruder.

During the last 25 years TRP has grown to a position where it employs over 350 people at its Hereford site and export's 95% of its products.

This growth has been built on the ability of its technical team to meet the tough challenges offered by the demands of the automotive industry and its continuous investment in new plant and equipment.

In addition to its UK operation TRP has manufacturing sites in Romania and India.

Having recently joined the SMMT TRP is already benefiting from the latest meet the buyer event in Birmingham.

Marketing Manager Pete Smith commented "these events not only an opportunity to interact with automotive buyers but also allow networking with other SMMT members".

Visit www.trpsealing.com

London Classic Car Show

8 – 11 January 2015

The London Classic Car Show is a brand new event for discerning classic car collectors, enthusiasts and dealers. The London Classic Car Show 2015 will put London back on the classic car map, bringing together themes that have shaped the motor industry's past. The Show will gather some of the world's finest classic cars under one roof and bring them to life in a unique feature - the Grand Avenue, a motoring runway that will allow the star cars to be fired up and driven around the Show giving visitors the opportunity to see, hear and even smell them! ExCeL, in London's Docklands, will be packed with some of the most valuable, rare and desirable classic cars in the world, all ready to kick start the New Year with an aural explosion.

Find out more at: <http://www.thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk/>

Organisers are offering SMMT members the opportunity to **buy one ticket and get one free** where they should contact melissas@brandevents.co.uk before 31 December if interested.



Exhibition space at SMMT's London offices

SMMT offers its members the exclusive use of the exhibition space at our Westminster headquarters.

As part of the reception area, the space is highly visible from both outside and inside the building, providing a fantastic opportunity to promote your business in a central London location.

The potential audience is unique: SMMT frequently hosts ministers, government officials, senior industry executives, media and other key stakeholders for meetings and events.

We will work with exhibitors to publicise displays via our website and Twitter, as well as a feature in the SMMT Update newsletter.

Exhibitors are also invited to use the showroom for other company events. Whether it's a product launch, drinks reception, media gathering or political event, the space can serve a huge range of requirements.

For more information, please contact Alex Michaelides at amichaelides@smmt.co.uk or 020 7344 1667.

