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**connected  
everything.**

industrial systems in the digital age

# Running a Network Plus – pitfalls and possibilities

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# Setting up the network plus



# Starting the process

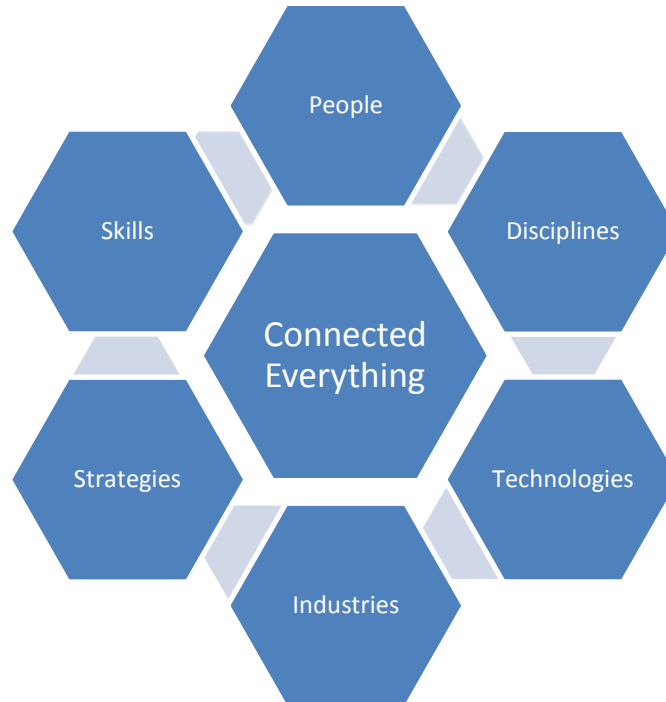
- Be sure there is a significant size of community
- Read the guidance on EPSRC website
- Ensure commitment of your CIs and management team



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# Goals of the network





# Approach

- Thematic Events
  - Run (and owned) by different members of management team
- Feasibility Studies
  - PI/CIs not allowed to bid
  - Focus on ECRs
- **Networking (!)**
- People Movement and Skills
  - Summer schools and specialist events
- Roadmapping/Agenda setting
  - Responsive to external context



# Thematic Areas

- Industrial Internet of Things
- Data analytics and decision making
- Service design and customisation
- Design for future manufacturing
- Cyber-physical systems
- Future industrial workers
- Systems analysis and control (TBC)



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**Lessons (still  
being) learned**



# Tips and Hints

- Recruit a brilliant Network Manager
  - Consider pay scale, flexibility around T&Cs, recruitment timescale
- Think of your network as part of a wider portfolio
  - For you, and for your financial unit (school/faculty/dept)
- Write a tight proposal
  - A good proposal which all are signed up to will save time and money
  - Remember to cost for the unexpected
- Work out your external image
  - Branding
  - Social media
- Think about different user communities
  - Early career
  - Industry
  - Senior staff
  - Communities from outside EPSRC space traditionally
- Be flexible and responsive
  - Brexit
  - Industrial Strategy
  - D4I leadership group
- Recruit a brilliant Network Manager







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**Connected Everything**

**Thank you**

**@scscharples**