

**Eol for membership of
UK National Wind Tunnel Facility****Closing date September 1, 2018**

NWTF provides world-class facilities to promote research of the highest quality. Following a significant investment by EPSRC and ATI (<http://www.nwtf.ac.uk>), it offers access to a range of tunnels for experiments up to $Re \approx 5 \times 10^6 / m$ and $M \leq 9$. While the focus is currently on aerospace-related research, it is expected that the sectoral relevance will be extended, particularly for low-speed applications in the automotive, environmental and civil-engineering sectors.

NWTF is currently reviewing its tunnels. It is therefore soliciting Expressions of Interest from University groups wishing to propose their facility for inclusion in NWTF. Interested parties are invited to write to the Project Director and Project Manager with a one-page description of the proposed facility's capabilities and why it should be included as part of NWTF. Each Eol will be assessed by the NWTF Management Board, with final decisions being made by both Management and Advisory Boards.

Each facility is expected to operate in such a way that, while it can levy a charge-out rate, it uses tunnel income (at greater than FEC) to subsidise, in-kind, its use by early-stage researchers from other institutions. In-kind support involves prior training in the facility and related equipment, technical assistance in facility use, setting up and initial data processing. Facilities new to NWTF would be supported in any applications to the EPSRC Strategic Equipment process.

Membership requires that:

1. the host university is clearly committed to its wind tunnels;
2. the host university is research intensive and the lab has a long-term proven track record;
3. the investigators local to the facility are altruistic and prepared to demonstrate best practice, so providing an outward-facing role for the community.

While having due regard for the strategic importance of each tunnel and the overall balance of the constituent tunnels within NWTF, we expect these criteria to operate for all members.

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Further Information

The principal aim of NWTF is to provide, principally to UK researchers, access to world-class wind tunnel facilities in a cost-effective way such that each facility (or group of facilities at a single institution) is financially sustainable. To that end, each facility would expect to operate as open access for up to 25% of available tunnel time, at an agreed charge-out rate payable directly to the host institution by the researcher's grant / contract. Although the research is multi-sectoral and of low TRL (< 3) there is an aerospace focus, largely because of the strength of that sector. The tunnels encompass a full range of Reynolds and Mach numbers and hosted by research-intensive universities that are clearly committed to wind tunnels and prepared to demonstrate best practice to the wider community.

Further key information is also available at <http://www.nwtf.ac.uk>
<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/facilities/access/otherfacilities/nationalwindtunnelfacility/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Wind_Tunnel_Facility

Professor Jonathan Morrison is Principal Investigator and Project Director (PD). He chairs the Management Board. Dr. Kevin Gouder is currently Project Manager (PM). The MB comprises the seven Investigators (one from each university) plus the Project Manager and meets quarterly. An Advisory Board oversees NWTF processes and actions and meets annually, subject to its own terms of reference. EPSRC holds an ex-officio position on both the Management and Advisory Boards.

Each participating institution presently contributes £1.75k per tunnel per year as a contribution to the Project Manager salary cost at 50% FTE, the remainder presently coming from the grant.

In September 2015, a wind tunnel Roadmap was completed for EPSRC: www.epsrc.ac.uk/files/research/windtunnelroadmap. The roadmap examines the importance of wind tunnels within the aerospace, automotive, wind engineering and environmental sectors.