

FUTURE FACTORY CAN HELP YOUR BUSINESS BECOME MORE SUSTAINABLE

- WHAT:** Future Factory is a project to support sustainable product and process design
- WHERE:** This purpose-designed initiative is aimed at small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the East Midlands
- WHEN:** Future Factory is already up and running, resources are waiting, so act now
- HOW:** Future Factory can help your business become more sustainable; our team can put you in touch with valuable support at little or no cost.

The challenge for most businesses is finding the resources, time and expertise to integrate a sustainable agenda into their plan.

The project will help you to understand how sustainability issues impact on your business and inspire you to adopt new ways of working.

Future Factory is a three year initiative developed by Nottingham Trent University, partly funded by the European Regional Development Fund. It's aims are to assist businesses in developing a design-led approach to sustainability, opening doors to the expertise, know-how, space and technology needed to realise a more sustainable future.

ADOPTING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN IN YOUR BUSINESS

Future Factory can advise on how sustainability affects your product or service in many key areas:

- MARKETING**
- Plan your business strategy
 - Identify new routes to market
 - Develop a 'green' brand
 - Connect with new consumers
- MATERIALS**
- Source natural, renewable & recoverable materials
 - Explore alternative materials
 - Reduce processing & complexity
- PRODUCTION**
- Commercialise through prototyping & testing
 - Assess existing production processes
 - Conserve resources by efficient manufacturing
- PACKAGING**
- Define sustainable packaging
 - Communicate your brand values
 - Experiment with new formats
- SUPPLY**
- Partner with local suppliers & retailers
 - Look for delivery efficiencies
 - Rethink your supply chain
- CONSUMPTION**
- Understand emotionally durable products & services
 - Create long lasting, low maintenance & repairable products
 - Engage customers by rethinking ethical values
- RECOVERY**
- Design for disassembly & remanufacture
 - Examine systems for reuse & recycling
 - Explore innovative uses for waste

WHAT WE OFFER: UP TO 90% FUNDING, EXTENSIVE RESOURCES IDEAS & EXPERTISE

Through Future Factory businesses can access NTU's leading-edge resources to reduce your environmental impact. We offer eligible SMEs in the East Midlands access to:

- ASSISTANCE**
- Free workshops and events*
 - Globally renowned speakers
 - Business needs analysis & sustainability review
 - Expert panels & 1-2-1s
 - Future gazing in our 'Whitespace'
- COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS**
- Up to 90% of the funding needed to realise your project
 - Project planning & management
 - Heavily subsidised expert consultancy
 - Customised research and data analysis
 - Product design, development & concept testing
 - Access to specialist resources & technology
 - Achievable recommendations & objectives
- GRADUATE PLACEMENTS**
- Graduate students working on 'live projects' for your business
 - Up to 25% subsidy to help you employ a recent graduate to work on a 'sustainable design project'
- AND MORE....**
- Networking with like-minded people
 - Dedicated space to support your projects
 - Signposting to further support
 - Your own 'Ning' virtual community of interest *

*See website for latest event listings at www.ntu.ac.uk/futurefactory and access to 'Ning'

HOW WE WORK

TALK

Our workshops, bespoke programmes and consultations will help you identify the sustainability issues which affect your business.

PLAN

We'll develop an innovative and detailed plan specifically for your business. This will include the management of the project from just a few hours mentoring through to a longer project.

ACT

We'll source the expertise, research and knowledge you need and provide you with access to design and development resources.

CHANGE

We'll monitor the changes in your business and help make sure your changes are effective.

The first step to becoming a sustainable business is to get in touch with the project team:

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www.ntu.ac.uk/futurefactory
www.futurefactory.ning.com

UNTANGLE SUSTAINABILITY

