



NEW MEMBER SHOUT OUT

Print Inc



Dates for the Diary

27 th March 2024	Coleg Gwent: How we can collaborate with Manufacturers
26 th April 2024	Caerphilly Manufacturing Networking Event at Atlantic Services
June 2024	Manufacturing Wales Anniversary Event



WhatsApp Group

Don't forget to email Emily your mobile number and approval to be added to the member WhatsApp group for instant communications with other members.

A warm welcome, strong network, news, insights and information as well as an outstanding welcome pack are just a few of the reasons you might want to find out more about how Manufacturing Wales can help you.

If you manufacture in Wales and want to find out more simply email via our [website](https://www.manufacturingwales.com) or email heather@manufacturingwales.com

Manufacturing Wales Newsletter Winter 2023-2024

News Highlights



[CBI Wales Appoints New Chair Alison Orrells](#)



[Cardiff University and IQE Announce Strategic Partnership Extension](#)



Academic Partners

[Short courses for upskilling teams](#)

Are you one of the Welsh businesses looking for innovative changes and strategic growth in 2024? A collaboration or Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) with Cardiff Met could be the solution. Read our [Research & Innovation Services LinkedIn](#) article '[Unlocking Growth and Innovation: Collaborate with Cardiff Met in 2024](#)' and get in touch with the team by email: rissupport@cardiffmet.ac.uk or visit www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/business or [subscribe to our newsletter](#).



Are you ready to infuse fresh perspectives into your work and foster meaningful collaborations in 2024? Cardiff Metropolitan University invites you to our 'Collaboration Kick-Off' series—an exciting opportunity to connect with renowned research-active academics, explore new pathways, and ignite collaboration. We have sessions on Wednesday, 21st February 2024 with Professor Chris Wallis, ([register here](#)) and Wednesday, 17th April 2024 with Dr Rachel Mason-Jones.



[Look at ways to upskill your workforce](#)



[New collaborative £12 million facility HIVE](#)



[Courses available](#)



[Apprenticeships](#)

Our Industry Sponsors



Prevention is Better than Cure for Manufacturing Companies - In the digital age, manufacturing companies face a growing cyber threat landscape. As cyber-attacks become increasingly sophisticated and prevalent, the need for robust cybersecurity measures has never been more critical. While some manufacturing companies may hesitate to invest in cybersecurity, opting to deal with the aftermath of an attack instead, taking a proactive approach to cybersecurity is paramount for safeguarding operations, protecting valuable assets, and preserving brand reputation.

More <https://purecyber.com/news-1/prevention-is-better-than-cure-for-manufacturing-companies>

As 2024 kicks off, manufacturers should ensure they are keeping up to date with the ever-changing legal landscape. Hot topics include the increasingly prevalent ESG requirements which continue to impact business across all industries (and which will continue to do so to an even greater extent in the coming years). Acuity is committed to guiding its clients through this journey by helping them develop a solid ESG strategy. Find out how ESG requirements can impact your business here:



- [New Regulations to Reduce Packaging Waste in Wales](#)
- [Building Resilience: How Green Drafting Can Shape Legal Contracts](#)
- [What are The European Sustainability Reporting Standards \(ESRS\) and What do They Mean for Your Business?](#)

Another rapidly evolving area is data protection, as regulation tries to keep up with the exponential growth and sophistication of technology such as Generative AI. Manufacturers will need to learn how to balance utilising the power of AI, in order to stay competitive, against the need to keep their businesses safe. Read more about the possible risks here:

- [AI & Copyright: A Collision Course In UK Courts](#)



www.manufacturingwales.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/manufacturing-wales/>

Showcasing Academic Support for Manufacturing

Manufacturing Wales works with a number of academic members to ensure that both current and future skills needs are met and to promote research and development, innovation, knowledge transfer and research. Each of our academic partners has a unique capability, and as part of the relationship with Manufacturing Wales, a new prospectus, focused and dedicated to the support and services that are offered by our academic members to manufacturing members will be made available to members in the late spring.

Supporting the Policy Agenda for Manufacturing

The Federation of Small Businesses in Wales (FSB) has launched a report on the changing landscape facing firms in Wales' manufacturing sector called Manufacturing Momentum. In this report, a number of recommendations and calls to action are proposed.

Manufacturing Wales will support this report by taking a more in-depth review of what our manufacturing members feel are the key issues, in order that these views can be shared more widely with policy makers in Wales and beyond.



52% of UK's manufacturers net profits on average are being invested in sustainability or carbon reduction initiatives

According to our research, UK manufacturers have acted decisively to resolve their recent supply vulnerabilities and now they are tackling the next big challenge: tracking and cutting emissions across their value chains." Lee Collinson - Head of Manufacturing, Transport and Logistics, Barclays Corporate Banking

UK manufacturers who took part in our research said they are investing over half of their net profits on average into sustainability/carbon reduction initiatives. Many are also acquiring new data platforms and expertise to help them support their Scope 3 emissions strategy – but how can they fund these investments in challenging times? Why should UK manufacturing businesses act on Scope 3 emissions now? What is meant by Scope 3 emissions? What are UK manufacturers investing in to support their Scope 3 emissions strategy? Please read the article on the [link here](#) to learn more.



Management buyout: Key tax issues for business owners

A Management Buy-Out (MBO) may arise whereby a business owner is looking to realise the value created through their ownership, or where a group of companies want to sell a subsidiary or division of a business to the incumbent Management Team.

In both cases, the existing Management Team would have extensive knowledge and experience of running the business on a day-to-day basis and therefore could be a viable option for the shareholders to sell to them.

[What is a Management Buy-Out?](#) Click here to find out more [here](#)

Your PR checklist for 2024



Every business needs a clear and efficient PR communications plan, and the New Year is the perfect time to revisit yours. From press releases to social media, there are plenty of tools to tell the world who you are and why you're here. Effective Communication details their must-haves for the perfect PR communications plan, check it out to make 2024 your most successful year yet.



Changes to the VAT Reliefs for Energy Saving Materials – a Trigger to increased demand?

Following a UK government consultation in 2023 on the scope and application of VAT to the supply and installation of Energy Saving Materials, there is news of the changes to the VAT reliefs that will be implemented. These changes will come into effect from the 1st February 2024. You can find the details of these VAT changes in a blog piece from VAT Director, Liz Maher - [here](#). Centurion VAT is now a part of the wider Xeinadin Accountancy Group should you note the changes in branding.

Will the expansion of the VAT reliefs to more qualifying energy saving materials and to those supplies into charitable bodies deliver a increase in production across the UK will be the question for our manufacturing network to consider?



Read the latest [Neurodiversity newsletter here](#)

Find out here about the [Neurodiversity Champions Programme here](#)



As leading providers of Manufacturing Insurance and Risk Management Services, NFU Mutual are delighted to announce our new strategic partnership with Manufacturing Wales. The Direct connection between our two organisations will allow us to help and support the complex needs of Welsh Manufacturers, while also assisting group members with tailored Risk Management, Health and Safety and Insurance solutions. For large businesses to thrive in today's ever changing global economy, basic insurance covers are unable to provide the value, or level of protection that is required. NFUM are well positioned to help Manufacturing Wales members build a robust resilience for the future.



Toyota Lean Clusters : <https://www.business-events.org.uk>
Innovation support:
<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/industry-impact-fund/>