

SCoRE CYMRU

Supporting Collaborative Research and innovation in Europe

Recipients:

Professor Hefin Rowlands
University of South Wales

Mr Gash Bhullar
Control 2K Ltd

SCoRE Cymru support for travel:

The Industrial Technologies 2016 –
Creating a Smart Europe event in
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

A personal reflection:

I was delighted to receive support through SCoRE Cymru to attend the Industrial Technologies 2016 Congress in Amsterdam 22-24th June 2016. I was accompanied by Gash Bhullar, Control 2K Ltd who also received support to attend the event. Gash is extremely well networked across Europe and introduced me to a number of his colleagues at the event.

My main objective in attending the event was to build a consortium for a Horizon 2020 submission for FOF-09-2017 in the area of Preventative Maintenance. There was a lot of interest in this topic from Universities, companies and organisations representing groups of companies. I am now working on this proposal with colleagues that I met at the event.

Following the Brexit vote, which was announced whilst we were at the event and did throw the conference into disbelief and a stunned silence, I have not experienced any concerns from the partners in working with a UK based University. Only time will tell if this changes. For now, the best advice is to continue to develop projects and proposals. This also reflects the messages from the Welsh and UK governments.



A further objective in attending the conference was to meet with the I4MS (ICT Innovation for Manufacturing SMEs) team and I was delighted to hear that our bid (in collaboration with Control 2K Ltd, EEF and Cardiff Metropolitan University) for preparing a feasibility study to set up a Digital Manufacturing Innovation Hub in Wales, was successful. Work on the project started on 1st September 2016.

The event didn't disappoint and even surpassed all my expectations. The SCoRE Cymru support was a great help in enabling the opportunity for me to attend the event. In addition to the Horizon 2020 proposal I'm currently working on, networking with key players in Digital Manufacturing / Industry 4.0 from the EU, EFFRA and other organisations will certainly improve prospects of future collaboration.

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