

Knowledge Transfer Partnership – Strathclyde University

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships is funded by the TSB and Scottish Government and is Europe's leading programme helping business to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills that reside within the UK knowledge base.

The [West of Scotland KTP Centre](#) will help businesses to identify an academic or researcher who has the right expertise to assist the business. A project will be defined and agreed that will enable the company to draw on the academic expertise and apply it to the business. The agreed project could be for any length of time between one and three years, with the overall aim of helping the business make a step change in an area that has been identified as high priority.

KTP is a partnership between the university and an external organisation which allows one or more high calibre Associates (recently qualified people) to work on a project, which is core to the strategic development of the business. Numerous of RAD's clients have benefited from a Knowledge Transfer Partnership and associates from Strathclyde University. Some of the more obvious benefits RAD witnessed within each project can be summarised as follows;

- For each project the KTP Associate had differing skill sets, with some being more technical and able to take on project technical activities and others being more project and business focussed.
- All KTP Associates proven to have a good concept of manufacturing methodologies and all have brought with them an independent perspective to each project, allowing them to focus on the project/business goals without being unduly influenced by historic working practices or influential staff members.
- All KTP Associates provided a good liaison point between RAD and the customers' project team, utilising core project management concepts and tools to ensure the project is managed in a balanced manor, combining project goals with external influences such as change in business model or trading conditions.
- All KTP project and associates are supported by real practical expertise from the leading academics from the University who themselves have been involved in several business transformation, change ERP and supply chain improvement projects and are in an ideal situation to provide guidance and direction to the project as well as the associate.

Having dedicated members of staff is just one of the many factors that can lead to a successful strategic project implementation. Many organisations striving for improvements within the business have resource constraints and as such the ability to bridge those gaps with a high calibre, knowledgeable, experienced and dedicated associate is of paramount importance.

The Scottish Government's economic strategy highlights a number of areas where KTP can contribute to the strategic priorities. KTP's strength in linking businesses to Scotland's research base contributes to a supportive business environment.