

FORGING ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN N8 HPC AND INDUSTRY

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ABSTRACT

N8 HPC is one of several ESRC regional HPC centres funded in 2012 primarily to seed engagement between industry and academia around research using e-infrastructure.

N8 HPC builds on the academic strengths and collaborative commitment of the N8 Research Partnership – an established partnership of the most prominent research-intensive universities in the North of England. The members are the universities of Durham, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield and York.

The service offers a flagship shared ‘Tier 2’ SGI 5,000+ core high performance computing facility, which underpins world-class research across the eight institutions. A virtual centre based at Leeds and Manchester co-ordinates the activities of N8 HPC and consists of a distributed team of experts to help with optimising time-to-solution, developing skills and building on existing institutional industrial relationships.

Our Industry Advisory Board which includes Jaguar Land Rover, Unilever, Iceotope, BioNow, the Virtual Engineering Centre and the Hartree Centre provides industrially relevant views and feedback to help ensure our services and research and industrial partnerships are aligned.

N8 HPC enables collaborations between institutions and create opportunities to engage more effectively with business and the community. This will be achieved through our Industry Advisory Board, industry workshops and working in partnership with UK Government initiatives such as the Catapult Centres; as well as the Technology Strategy Board, e-Infrastructure Leadership Council; and in collaboration with other regional and national e-infrastructure centres.

Overall, we believe this is a step-change in the computing capability and capacity available to leading researchers in the N8 universities, providing a

platform for sharing methodological and technical expertise, and creating new opportunities for business-facing collaborative research.

Our talk will present an overview of N8 HPC and step through a number of case studies to illustrate the different aspects of our offering to industrial and academic partners alike.

SUGGESTED THEMES

This talk will be given in the UK HPC Infrastructure track organized by the NAFEMS HPC Working Group.