

BHGE partners with AFRC to push limits of advanced manufacturing for oil and gas

Immediate release (Wed October 10)

The University of Strathclyde's Advanced Forming Research Centre (AFRC) and Baker Hughes, a GE company (BHGE), have joined forces to explore how some of the latest advanced manufacturing tools and processes can drive more efficient, smarter ways to reduce cost and increase productivity across BHGE's operations.

Joining the world-renowned research centre as a tier one member, BHGE will work with the AFRC's team of engineers and researchers to improve its manufacturing processes and delivery of services. Using its expertise and state-of-the-art equipment, the AFRC will help BHGE identify opportunities to cut costs and cycle time, while extending the lifespan of oilfield equipment required for operations in increasingly high temperature and extreme pressure environments.

This collaboration will see BHGE have a seat on the AFRC's managing and technical boards, as well as supporting the centre's core research programme. Together with the AFRC's other tier one members, BHGE will help to steer the wider research agenda and share cross sector learnings and best practice.

Paul Cantwell, oil and gas knowledge exchange fellow at the AFRC, said: "We are delighted to welcome BHGE as a tier one member, our first from the oil and gas sector, and thrilled to be working with the team on improving the company's extensive manufacturing processes through the use of our innovative technologies.

"It is exciting to be working with such a dynamic organisation and one that is truly focused on improving what they do for the sake of the wider subsea, and oil and gas community. We are certain the work we do together will have a positive impact in terms of supporting Scotland's international reputation for innovation in the oil and gas sector."

Speaking about the collaboration, John Kerr, VP and Chief Technology Officer for BHGE's Oilfield Equipment business, said: "The oil and gas industry is continually evolving, with the past few years driving the need to look at new ways to enhance efficiency, improve productivity and drive down cost. Manufacturing innovation has an important role to play and this collaboration with the AFRC will provide our business with exposure to the latest in advanced manufacturing tools and processes. This will help to improve our own operations and help steer the direction of research for the benefit of manufacturing sectors globally."

ends (10/10/18)

Issued by The BIG Partnership on behalf of the Advanced Forming Research Centre

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About the University of Strathclyde's Advanced Forming Research Centre

The AFRC is a globally-recognised centre of excellence in innovative manufacturing technologies, engineering research and development, and metal forming and forging research. □

For almost a decade the centre has been at the heart of manufacturing research in Scotland. It is the only High Value Manufacturing Catapult centre in the country, one of only 7 in the UK making it the critical link between manufacturers in Scotland and the rest of this world-class network of manufacturing innovation and expertise.

The AFRC helps to fill the gap between fundamental academic research and industry. We help companies to turn innovative technologies and ideas into a commercial reality that will increase their competitiveness, boost their business and secure the manufacturing sector in Scotland and the UK for generations to come.

- ! *£60m facility established in 2009*
- ! *£38.5 million project portfolio*
- ! *Over 400 projects; 331 with industrial clients*
- ! *5,680m² research space*

About Baker Hughes, a GE company

Baker Hughes, a GE company (NYSE: BHGE) is the world's first and only fullstream provider of integrated oilfield products, services and digital solutions. We deploy minds and machines to enhance customer productivity, safety and environmental stewardship, while minimizing costs and risks at every step of the energy value chain. With operations in over 120 countries, we infuse over a century of experience with the spirit of a startup – inventing smarter ways to bring energy to the world. Visit us at BHGE.com.

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