



Manufacturing
Technology Centre



PRESS RELEASE

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CLOUD-BASED METROLOGY RESEARCH SCOOPS TOP INDUSTRY AWARD

Accolade recognises Europe-leading research

European-leading research that will revolutionise the way companies communicate precision measurements to each other using cloud technology has been recognised with a top industry award.

The work, which was undertaken at the pioneering Manufacturing Technology Centre in Coventry, was presented at the global Large Volume Metrology Conference in Manchester. The research programme, presented at the conference by MTC metrology team leader Dr Bin Cai, received the award for Best Presentation and Research.

The novel approach, which is derived from the MTC's core research programme, will enable major manufacturers and their supply chain to communicate precise and detailed measurement information to each other using cloud technology. This will eliminate the current problem of inconsistencies of measurement information when it is shared between organisations. The research is the first application of Industry 4.0 on dimensional metrology in Europe and has been recognised by the National Product Verification programme led by the National Physical Laboratory.

The LVMC Conference is the only event in Europe dedicated to large volume 3D measurement technology and is attended by leading companies and research organisations from across the continent.

Dr Bin Cai said the work at the MTC will allow manufacturers and suppliers to exchange metrology information in a digitised and standardised way, with real-time feedback, improving accuracy and efficiency.

He said, "The work at the MTC is being carried out by a team of 24 engineers and technicians using a range of research strands to develop and integrate state-of-the-art inspection technology. The team has access to the most up-to-date metrology equipment available, ranging from optical scanning to X-ray computed tomography (CT) worth more than £3 million. We are helping a range of industrial sectors, including aerospace, automotive and power generation solve their challenging manufacturing inspection problems. The prize at the end of this for manufacturers is better quality at reduced cost."

The MTC opened in 2011 and was founded by the University of Birmingham, Loughborough University, the University of Nottingham and TWI Ltd. The MTC's industrial members include some of the UK's major global manufacturers.

The MTC aims to provide a competitive environment to bridge the gap between university-based research and the development of innovative manufacturing solutions, in line with the Government's manufacturing strategy. The MTC is part the High Value Manufacturing Catapult, supported by Innovate UK (formerly the Technology Strategy Board).

Pictured: An ultra-high accuracy co-ordinate measuring machine in action at the MTC

Further information - MTC: Nick Hickman, Manufacturing Technology Centre, tel 02476 701818

www.the-mtc.org

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About the MTC

The MTC (Manufacturing Technology Centre) has been established to prove innovative manufacturing processes and technologies in an agile environment in partnership with industry, academia and other institutions. The MTC houses some of the most advanced manufacturing equipment in the world, creating a high quality environment for the development and demonstration of new technologies on an industrial scale. This provides a unique opportunity for manufacturers to develop new and innovative processes and technologies.

The areas of MTC's expertise are appropriate to both large and small companies and are applicable across varied industry sectors. The MTC's members include global manufacturing companies from multiple sectors. Research partners include the University of Birmingham, University of Nottingham, Loughborough University and TWI Ltd.

The MTC is part of the High Value Manufacturing Catapult which is supported by Innovate UK (formerly the Technology Strategy Board).

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