

Did you know...?

Edinburgh's science parks are home to some 3,300 researchers, making the city one of the 20 largest science park zones in the world

A significant longstanding commitment to commercialisation of this science base has also led to the presence in the region of many exciting technology companies. Within the past five years alone, around 60 start-up and spin-out companies have emerged from the University of Edinburgh. Cutting edge companies based in the region today include: Xilinx, Wolfson Microelectronics, and IndigoVision from the world of electronics, and Charles River, Kendle International, Aptuit, and Ardana from the world of health care.

In 1971 the area became the base for the first science park in Europe, created by Heriot-Watt University. Since that time other science parks and research centres have been created including the Edinburgh Technopole, the University of Edinburgh's science park, which is a joint venture with Grosvenor, the international property group.

In 2004 seven of these science and technology parks came together to create an alliance known as the Edinburgh Science Triangle. Each of the seven parks is housed in quiet landscaped surroundings and yet are close to Edinburgh and the International Airport. You can travel between all the parks in less than an hour, and the Edinburgh Science Triangle alliance has been part of a general movement towards pooling resources and sharing ideas.

The parks are now home to some 3,300 researchers, making this collectively one of the 20 largest science park zones in the world. Maintenance of such a strong base requires a highly skilled workforce, and Edinburgh has one of the best-trained workforces in the world. The city has more graduates per head of population than any other city in Europe, and the city's international renown attracts knowledge-based workers from all over the world. The quality of life and high standard of work on offer attract a large pool of general and specialist labour, contributing to a young and vibrant workforce in all the science parks and throughout the city.

The city's three universities ensure a steady stream of talented science and technology graduates, and Scotland as a whole trains a disproportionate number of the UK's life scientists, pharmacists, and medical doctors. With first class infrastructure and accommodation the skilled workforce has easy access to world-leading education and research resources. The Edinburgh Science Triangle provides an exceptional location to do business.

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