

**DTI'S ELECTRONICS DESIGN NETWORK IS ACCREDITED AS
"CENTRE OF EXPERTISE IN MANUFACTURING"
BY UK'S MANUFACTURING ADVISORY SERVICE**

The DTI's Electronics Design network, recent winners of the EEIA "Project Team of the Year Award", has received a further accolade with its accreditation as a "Centre of Expertise in Manufacturing" (CEM) by the government's Manufacturing Advisory Service.

As a result, the Electronics Design network of regional Support Centres in England and Wales may now carry out work on behalf of the MAS. This will take the form of in-depth, expert consultancy support, as determined by the MAS. Small and medium-sized manufacturing companies with a requirement for any aspect of electronics design can now benefit from the knowledge base and expertise of the Electronics Design team and may qualify to receive subsidised support for short-term projects.

"As the scope of manufacturing increasingly embraces electronics product design, this appointment will be very welcome to many UK manufacturers," commented Tony Boylan, National Network Manager of the MAS.

"We are delighted that the ED Network has received this further recognition of its capabilities and we look forward to working with the MAS," noted Jim Heaton, Project Manager of the DTI Electronics Design Programme.

The Electronics Design Programme was set up by the DTI in 1999 to provide consultancy and independent advice to the UK electronics industry through management seminars, hands-on support and information tools. Its website can be accessed at www.e-design.org.uk

The Manufacturing Advisory Service, established last year by the DTI in partnership with the Regional Development Agencies, aims to improve the capabilities, productivity and competitiveness of UK manufacturers. More information is available at www.dti.gov.uk/manufacturing/mas.

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