

NWTF Mission Statement

By enhancing the symbiosis between facility and research talent, NWTF aims to keep the UK at the forefront of experimental aerodynamics and fluid mechanics. Tunnels serve as 'attractors' for the fostering of talent and provide focal points for collaboration. Thus NWTF provides a service that is greater than the sum of its individual tunnels and researchers. The paradigm shift provided by NWTF offers an overall transformative benefit, establishing a world-leading capability across a range of engineering sectors while being cost-effective. The enhanced UK capability in experimental aerodynamics is available to all UK-based researchers. NWTF is keen to foster international collaboration through the establishment of joint funding mechanisms. NWTF also aims to establish closer ties with industry creating a pull-through of talent across a range of sectors. It therefore supports UKRI's and EPSRC's strategic objectives and the government's industrial strategy.

Tunnels forming NWTF are expected to provide a unique resource. They are also expected to meet three criteria:

1. the host university is clearly committed to its wind tunnels;
2. the host university is research intensive and the lab has a proven track record;
3. the investigators local to the facility are altruistic with proven capability to collaborate and are prepared to demonstrate best practice, so providing an outward-facing role for the community.

Further factors include:

1. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion of the host investigator(s);
2. Geographical location.

While having due regard for the strategic importance of each tunnel and the overall balance of the constituent tunnels within NWTF, we expect these criteria to operate for all members.

In providing a research service tailored to meet a range of challenges, we believe NWTF to be the only distributed facility of its kind world-wide.

Management Board
19 September 2018