

Essex – Great for Advanced Manufacturing

Sector Highlights in Essex

- » **Essex is home to an advanced manufacturing cluster, with more than 1000 companies ranging from start-ups to global leaders**
- » **A network of established sub-contractors delivering high quality supply chain solutions**
- » **Access to 24,000 highly-skilled workers**
- » **Commercially-focused research from leading universities**
- » **Strong skills development infrastructure**
- » **Wide choice of commercial property from incubation centres to purpose-built business parks**
- » **Access to UK and international customers and partners via motorway, rail, seaports and airports**

Essex is an inspired choice for any business, offering a compelling mix of location, energetic business environment and quality of life. Essex has more than 70,000 businesses across a wide spectrum including large and small, successful start-ups, iconic brands, globally known names, and companies which have moved to Essex as a platform for growth, as well as having an outstanding record for technological innovation and manufacturing world-leading products.

Essex is a platform for doing business on a local, national or global scale. As well as being adjacent to the world financial city of London, Essex is

extremely well connected through its road and rail links to other parts of the UK and to continental Europe, as well as offering access to global markets via its international ports and airports.

A great location for business

For **advanced manufacturing companies**, the county's skills, transport infrastructure and proximity to London, Cambridge and Europe make it an ideal location for a European headquarters or UK office, opening up a specialist facility, starting a new business or relocating a growing company.

INVEST
Essex

"Our award-winning powertrains and products are continuing to win acclaim around the world and Dunton is the 'centre of excellence' behind many of them. The success of our commercial vehicles, evidenced by Ford Transit as International Van of the Year 2007, is key to our sustained business profitability"

Graham Hoare, Head of Ford Dunton



Essex County Council

Business Environment

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

More than 1000 advanced manufacturing businesses are based in Essex. The concentration and mix of larger companies, established local sub-contractors, start-ups and universities in Essex has created specialist clusters

supporting aerospace, automotive, biotechnology and electronics businesses. The sector also includes market-leading companies in defence systems, instrumentation, optics and medical equipment.

Home to world-class companies:

Ford – has been Britain's best-selling car brand for over 30 years. The Dunton Technical Centre, the UK's largest automotive research centre is where Ford's future engines, transmissions and commercial vehicles are developed.

The Dunton technical centre, and its Dagenham-based diesel engineers, are delivering eco versions of popular models which will see new levels of efficiency and CO₂ emission reduction. Dunton has been responsible for developing many famous Fords including the Fiesta XR2, Escort Cosworth, Sierra XR4x4, Granada, Capri, Focus and Transit van.

Visteon Engineering Services – is a leading, high-technology supplier of engineering, research and development services to 17 vehicle manufacturers and 23 automotive plants around the world. The company has been responsible for product innovations have influenced the entire industry's vehicle design philosophy.

Gardner Aerospace – is one of the UK's largest and best performing aerospace metallic manufactured details suppliers. It is at the forefront of the accelerating trend towards the establishment of fewer, larger suppliers able to work in close partnership with their customers and deliver the leveraged benefits of scale. Gardner is one of the few companies licenced to produce parts for Airbus.

A wide range of Advanced Manufacturing companies who are leaders in their field are also based in Essex, including:

BAE Systems – global company and world leader in aerospace, defence, aerospace and security.

Olympus KeyMed – developers of market-leading specialised medical ancillary products.

Ipeco – world market leader in commercial aircraft flight-deck seating.

Johnson Controls – world leading manufacturer of automotive systems, batteries and control systems for buildings.

BioFocus – leading independent contract R&D centre for drug discovery and one of the top five laboratories in this field in the UK.

New Holland Agriculture – the second largest manufacturer of agricultural equipment and the third largest maker of construction equipment in the world.

Skills and Labour Force

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

Over 24,000 people work in the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex, with well developed skills in research, design, engineering, product development, manufacturing, technical support and marketing. The sector also benefits the skills of its strong and diverse supply chain.

With the increasing emphasis on sophisticated electronic solutions, the sector draws on the county's high-tech heritage, pool of highly-skilled electronics engineers, links to the county's university and professional collaboration across the sector.

"We employ a diverse workforce of highly-qualified technical and business people. Essex has long proved to be an ideal recruiting ground for the calibre of people we need"

Bob Swanston, Managing Director and Global Director of Engineering Services, Visteon

Labour Costs

Average salary of advanced manufacturing staff in **9% lower** than London, **10% lower** than the East of England and **13% lower** than the UK average



BAE Systems, Chelmsford



Olympus Keymed, medical device manufacture

Research and Education

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

Leading University research

The University of Essex's Department for Electronics Systems Engineering has achieved a 5 star rating for research into robotics, phototonics and optics. The University's programme of spinouts, IP licensing, knowledge transfer partnerships and collaborative research are helping Essex companies accelerate their own innovation and development activities.

The availability of highly-educated graduates and knowledge workers has encouraged many advanced manufacturing companies to locate their research and development facilities in Essex.

"It's great to be part of a group of so many high-quality technology companies in this area. We are also starting to build relationships with local universities, take advantage of the research and educational facilities available and collaborate with other business in the Essex area"

Bob Swanston, Managing Director and Global Director of Engineering Services, Visteon

Graduate and skills training

Students are graduating from the following courses qualified for roles in the Advanced Manufacturing sector

University of Essex – offer courses in computing and electronics at BSc, MSc, MPhil and PhD levels. The Southend campus has an incubation centre to support new businesses.

Anglia Ruskin University – the university's Faculty of Science and Technology has a long standing relationship with the automotive industry, providing training and specialist consultancy on a wide range of topics from information systems, business systems to engineering development and production line control.

South Essex College – offers a wide range of manufacturing and engineering courses including BTEC, City & Guilds and degree courses in subjects such as vehicle engineering, engineering, design and ICT skills.

Robotics research at the University of Essex



Logistics and Communications

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

Links to national motorway network

Essex has over 7500 km of roads, with major trunk routes linking all parts of the county to the M11 and M25 motorways. The M11 gives fast access to London, Cambridge, the midlands and the north, while the M25, London's orbital motorway, gives access to the national motorway network that reaches out to all parts of the UK, and across to Europe.

London Stansted Airport

London Stansted is the UK's third busiest passenger airport, with more than 29 scheduled and charter airlines serving 140 destinations across 30 countries and the UK's second largest airfreight terminal with a worldwide reputation as a cargo hub carrying around 180,000 tonnes of freight a year.

High speed rail services

Essex has fast mainline rail links to London, the rest of the UK and Europe. Stratford International Station, adjacent to the London 2012 Olympic Village provides high-speed rail services to France and Belgium.

Port of Tilbury

London's main port with freeport status handles 80% of London's container traffic. With a significant logistics and distribution centre, covering over 850 acres it is well positioned with easy access to the M25 orbital motorway and from it the rest of the UK's national motorway network.

Harwich International Port

One of the UK's leading multi-purpose seaports. The port has excellent road and rail links to the midlands, London and the south-east and is ideally located for North Sea freight traffic to and from Scandinavia and the Benelux countries.

London Gateway Port

Construction has begun on the UK's newest deep-water container port. The port, and associated landside business and industrial functions, will be the most fully automated in the UK. It will comprise up to seven container vessel berths, a roll-on roll-off facility along 2.7km of quayside and the targets business and logistics park of its type in Europe. The port will become a national hub port for the UK accommodating the world's largest container ships.

Super-fast broadband

Essex is benefitting from the roll out of "Super-Fast" broadband providing businesses with greater flexibility in how they use the internet. Advantages include new services and more sophisticated communications, such as high-quality videoconferencing.

"The new A13 has improved road links to the rest of the UK, while a deep water jetty and train spur give us plenty of options for distribution to other UK plants, as well as European and international sites via the River Thames, motorways, Channel Tunnel and rail links"

Oliver Rowe, Ford Public Affairs



Property

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

Wide choice of properties and locations

Essex has a wide choice of properties suitable for a range of advanced manufacturing businesses from small high technology start ups to major manufacturing and research facilities.

Visit our property portal at www.investessex.co.uk

Examples of key sites across the county

Easter Park in Colchester is home to **Fläkt Woods** who design and manufacture air movement products and services for industry. The business park combines medium-sized high quality industrial units with an estate of small enterprise units.

Harlow – offers a choice of established and contemporary premises on business parks close to the M11 and London Stansted Airport. **The Pinnacles Estate** and **Mead Park Industrial Estate** are home to well known companies such as **GlaxoSmithKline**, **Pitney Bowes**, **3663 Food Distribution**, **Federal Express**, **Christian Salvesen** and **Raytheon**.

“ The company relocated to a new headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Colchester. That represents a huge Group investment and commitment to the UK operation ”

Paul Wenden, Engineering & Product Management Director, Fläkt Woods

Southend Airport, a long-established regional airport for south-east Essex, is rapidly expanding with major new infrastructure facilities that will see it extend its capacity and reach. It is also home to over 50 companies including **Ipeco** a leading supplier of flight deck and specialist crew seating for Airbus and Boeing.

Examples of property occupied by Environmental technology companies in Essex . . .



Location

Strengths of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Essex

Essex is superbly positioned for business. The county is strategically located in the south-east of England close to other vibrant economies such as London, one of the world's great financial centres, Cambridge, an international centre of research, and the dynamic growth markets of Europe.

Essex is a great place to live and work, with a huge choice of quality homes at reasonable prices, excellent schools and universities, first-class leisure facilities and an environment that gives the right work-life balance.

Essex has an excellent education system, with a number of outstanding schools regularly featuring in the top ten English state schools.

The quality of life in Essex is superb. The close proximity of central London, means you can enjoy the benefits of being close to a world-famous capital city while living and working in a county with fantastic leisure facilities and huge areas of unspoilt countryside.



London Stansted Airport



Clacton Pier

"We need to attract and retain talented mobile people. Many of our employees make their homes in Essex – they enjoy the quieter, rural life but like to have London so close"

Trevor Cross, Group Chief Technology Officer, e2v Technologies

Support

Maximise your competitive advantage

Essex could be the perfect place for your next move. We can help you get your business off to the best possible start, maximise your potential and take advantage of all the opportunities Essex can offer.

We can provide help to find you the right site and put you in touch with professionals and suppliers who can help you establish and grow your business.

Access to local knowledge and expertise

We have experience of working with businesses of all sizes and have helped many companies to relocate to Essex. You can draw on our extensive local knowledge of the Essex business environment, markets and supply chain as well as our established contacts with all the regional and national bodies who support inward investment.

Our property database makes it easy to find the ideal location in offices, business parks, industrial units or retail centres.

We are committed to your success and we look forward to welcoming your business to Essex.

INVEST Essex is Essex County Council's Inward Investment Service, providing confidential advice and practical support to companies wanting to establish a presence or expand in the UK.

We promote Essex as an outstanding business destination and help existing and potential investors make the most of our strategic location, thriving business environment and quality of life.

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