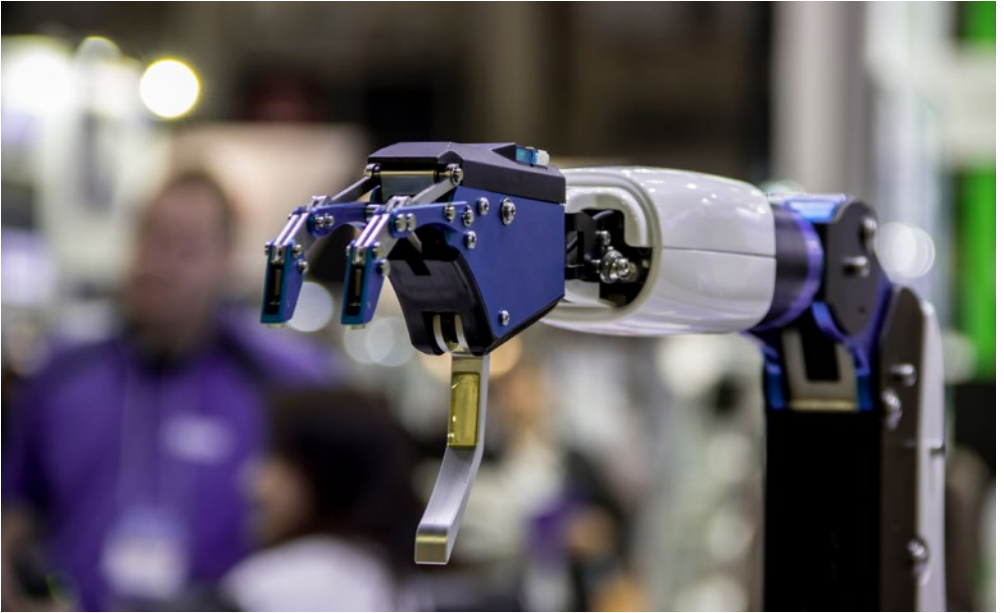


Innovate UK



GLOBAL BUSINESS INNOVATION VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS

FOCUS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS

Tuesday 9 – Friday 12 April 2019

Innovate UK



GLOBAL BUSINESS INNOVATION PROGRAMME

Supporting businesses and innovators to collaborate and grow internationally is a central theme of the UK Government Industrial strategy; setting out a goal to be the most innovative country in the world by 2030.

Innovate UK, working with the Enterprise Europe Network, is delivering a series of Global Business Innovation Programmes for UK SMEs to help develop strong relationships with international businesses and research partners and foster collaborative, innovation projects and knowledge exchange. The Programme will comprise representatives from innovative SMEs that are looking to develop strong international partnerships for future collaboration and commercialisation.

The Global Business Innovation Programme on AI and Robotics to the Netherlands is made up of representatives from innovative UK SMEs that are looking to develop strong international partnerships for future collaboration and commercialisation.

Business representatives are provided with a structured programme consisting of three phases:

- Getting ready for the market
- Visiting the market
- Exploiting the opportunity



Innovate UK

INNOVATE UK

Innovate UK, the UK's innovation agency, part of United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) since April 2018, drives productivity and economic growth by supporting businesses to develop and realise the potential of new ideas.

It connects businesses to the partners, customers and investors that can help them turn ideas into commercially successful products, services and business growth.

Innovate UK also funds business and research collaborations to accelerate innovation and drive business investment into R&D.



ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

The Enterprise Europe Network helps ambitious businesses innovate and grow internationally. The Network brings together business support organisations from over 60 countries and more than 600 member organisations worldwide. In the UK, EEN is jointly funded by the European Commission and Innovate UK, helping connect SMEs that are looking to commercialise ideas and increase their innovation capacity in new markets.



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I have always been interested in all things science and innovation. From a degree in Geochemistry to a Ph.D. in NMR spectroscopy to working for some of the UK's most successful engineering companies, and now the UK's innovation agency, Innovate UK, science and innovation has always been at the heart of what I do. At home I read up on human genetics or the origins of the cosmos....

It is the application of science and the impact on the UK economy and our society and environment though, not just science for the sake of science that has driven my career.

I was responsible for the product development portfolio of one of Johnson Matthey's operating businesses in Germany, working out of JM's R&D centre near Oxford. I left to manage a large portfolio of Ultra Low Temperature research instrument projects for Oxford Instruments and saw first-hand how one area of science (cryogenics) was being applied to grow one of the most amazing and successful UK technology companies. I went on to spend four years working in an engineering role at JET in Culham, still the world's largest nuclear fusion facility.

This largely private sector technology and innovation background was a perfect basis for a career with Innovate UK, the government backed agency in the UK tasked with supporting businesses innovation (Innovate UK is now part of UK Research and Innovation).

I now run Innovate UK's Global Missions Programme, which helps UK businesses across many sectors to connect with the best of global innovation.



Dr. Martijn Verwegen

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Martijn Verwegen is the senior innovation, technology and science attaché (IA) at the Netherlands embassy in London. His mission is to inform, inspire and facilitate in all matters regarding innovation, technology and science to foster good bilateral relations between organisations in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom in this domain. Focus areas for the innovation attaché are developments in Digital, High Tech, and Life Sciences and Health. Previously Martijn worked as policy advisor for the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research strategy department, focusing on national research institutes and knowledge utilisation. Furthermore, he has a background as a research scientist and holds a PhD in biomolecular nanotechnology.



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After graduating his studies at Eindhoven University of Technology, Willem worked at Philips between 1983 and 2005 where he has been working in several positions in international logistics, project management, account management and general management both in the Netherlands as internationally. Since 2005 Willem has been involved in various projects in the field of business development for both startups and large organizations and was also co-founder of the startup IReX Technologies. Since 2015, Willem is managing director of High Tech NL, the Dutch sector organization for the High Tech industry and knowledge institutes. In this position he also founded Holland Robotics, the joined organization for all robotics activities in the Netherlands.



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Vanessa Vlotides is the Head of the International Business Team and the Manager of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) at London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

She is responsible for the supervision of the EEN project and for leading the International Business Team's trade mission and event schedule. In a typical year, her team is responsible for 10–12 overseas trade delegations and the organisation of 30 international trade events to increase UK participation, especially from SMEs, in cross border trade.

Vanessa has a broad experience in international trade obtained through her studies (tri-national Masters in International Business), her current position and previous roles which include five years as Director of International Affairs at the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece (2006 – 2011) and 12 years in International Sales in the private sector (1994 – 2006).

NEED HIGHER
RESOLUTION
IMAGE

Timothy Benzie

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Timothy Benzie is an international business partnership consultant who has been with Enterprise Europe Network since its inception in 2008, helping companies and researchers in the South-East of England make links with partners in Europe to take their innovation further.

As a knowledge and technology transfer consultant, Timothy finds connections for businesses seeking manufacturing agreements, licensing partners, R&D partners and consortia for European funding bids.

Timothy is part of the vast Enterprise Europe Network and is based at Greenwich Research and Enterprise. He is currently Chair of the BioChemTech Sector Group, a key account manager for the Horizon 2020 SME Instrument recipients, and an advisor on marketing and communications for the Network.

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

ARCHITECTURE EXTRAPOLATED

BEETLEBOX LTD

CADSCAN LTD

CEREBRUM MATTER LTD

CITYMAAS LTD

ESWAPP LTD

HOMEODYNAMIC AUTONOMY LTD

INTELLIGENT MACHINES LTD

INTELLIGENT ROBOTS LTD

PERCEPTUAL ROBOTS

SERVICE ROBOTICS LTD

THARSUS

UNITED ROBOTS LTD

VOLUME AI



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Architecture Extrapolated (R-Ex) work expand from basic research in human-machine interaction, and reality computing to work and collaborations with engineers, material scientist, researchers and tradespeople immersed in theoretical and tacit knowledge of building construction. The focus of these collaborations is to explore human-machine collaboration in the high-skill domain of the building trades.

R-Ex seeks to augment human labour; not eliminate it, by developing a symbiotic relationship between the human body and the digital tools. It seeks opportunities to renew and broaden the possibilities of age-old craft work by digitizing its practice so that it can be both further disseminated and better integrated with novel digital design and fabrication techniques. Combining digital fabrication and manual craft and construction is a crucial aspect in the current context of a culture accustomed to mass production, that now with the advent of digital tools is becoming one of mass-customisation. There can only be mutual benefits on the digitisation of traditional construction trades to both the upgrading and augmenting of the building trades and for the transmission of wisdom of building cultures for their incorporation into the digital construction practice.

OBJECTIVES

Through participating in this programme, R-Ex seeks to find collaborative partners, expand our market research and create new synergies with Dutch companies in the areas of artificial intelligence, robotics and the building trades.



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Beetlebox is a spin-out from a London-based University that is developing software tools for edge computing, which is when data is processed on a local device such as a robot or drone, providing faster reaction speeds and lower power consumption than using the cloud. Currently, edge computing is limited by their processing chips which are required to be low cost and low power, reducing the performance and capabilities of AI and other types of algorithms running on the device.

At Beetlebox, we believe that the solution to this limited performance is to process this data through an alternative type of processing chip known as Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA). In a FPGA, the underline hardware is programmable, meaning that the chip can be tailored to the algorithm meeting both the performance and power requirements of the edge. Yet despite these advantages, companies have been slow to adopt FPGAs due to their difficulty to develop, and projects often take months to design, test and debug.

We are looking to ease the development process by building a software tool that makes FPGAs more accessible for edge computing whilst still retaining their performance and low power. We work with partners by applying our tool to their algorithms to bring the advantages of FPGAs to the edge.

OBJECTIVES

Beetlebox seeks innovation partners to form R&D collaborations within AI or applications for edge devices such as drones and robotics. We are particularly interested in providing solutions to partners who wish to achieve higher performance for their AI or SLAM algorithms used in commercial applications. Example commercial applications could include agriculture using drones capable of identifying ripe fruit and vegetables or energy where drones could visually identify faults in a power line.



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Cadscan Limited is a cutting-edge technology company that develops and manufactures new products for the healthcare, retail and education sectors. Its first product, a desktop 3D scanner, launched in 2014 and was sold in 25 countries. It has a strong research and development team comprising software, electronics, and mechanical engineers and product designers.

The company has developed a strong pipeline of innovative products which build on its core capabilities in 3D technologies, artificial intelligence and serious games design. Products include:

- Gufo, an airborne robotic assistant for older people
- PhoBot, an AI-chatbot to deliver Cognitive Behavioural Therapy to young people with anxiety
- Virtue, a virtual reality system for cognitive rehabilitation of stroke patients
- Attain, an augmented-reality system to improve the joint-attention skills of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Imprints, a 3D printed orthotic to prevent diabetic foot ulceration
- Aceso, a wound management system
- NOUS, an interactive deep-learning system to annotate and analyse image data

Cadscan's competitive advantage comes from Intellectual Property protected through patenting and trademarking where possible, and through the business models which digital technologies enable. It creates strong technology-driven value-propositions to generate profitable pricing structures.

OBJECTIVES

Cadscan is looking for collaborators to help bring our robotics systems to the market, particularly our airborne robotic assistant, and we are keen to explore the latest technology in the field of drones and autonomous indoor navigation. We would also like to meet companies interested in AI systems for conversational agents, deep-learning, interactive image annotation and image classification. Our objective is to develop lasting partnerships with innovative companies.



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The idea of creating Cerebrum Matter Ltd stems from our founder's experience, accompanying her grandmother through her journey with Parkinsons.

Our idea of digital healthcare came to the fore in 2015, leading to the idea of a therapy software. The development of the software tunnelled into the R&D process by the end of 2017, leading us to develop a cognitive software and conduct a pilot study on 20 healthy volunteers with brainwave measurements which triggered an innovative neurofeedback approach for creating intervention to early dementia patients to prevent the progression of the disease.

Mission - To prevent and reduce the prevalence of the symptoms of early onset dementia, by promoting cognitive improvement and mental wellness.

In the case of most progressive dementias, including Alzheimer's disease, there is no cure and no treatment that slows or stops its progression. The evidence of a real-life benefit of brain training at very early stages of dementia is significant. However, it's important to note that not all the brain exercises tested had a positive effect on the rate of dementia and a personalised therapy to each patient needs to be provided and Cerebrum Matter has set its vision to provide it to the patient globally suffering from dementia.

OBJECTIVES

The key reason for engaging in the Global Business Innovation Programme is to get a platform to explore the opportunities of the market in Europe and to understand if the need of the market will be different from the UK and find key partners for business growth, our innovative AI project and possible distributors for our products.



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CityMaaS uses AI to map smart city elements using crowd-sourced data, allowing for rapid global data collection and expansion.

Our first product, CityMaaS Assist, is a mobile app and web service using crowd-sourced data to achieve spontaneous and inclusive, frictionless travel for people with limited mobility. It features a self adapting UI/UX that is functionally bespoke to each type of disability once a user profile is set up, and machine learning to analyse the level of accessibility of every part of the city. This allows optimal routing for users in real time. CityMaaS Assist provides an end-to-end service from discovery, routing and providing essential information to booking and payment of each journey, door to door in smart cities.

OBJECTIVES

We are looking for strategic partners with relevant AI expertise within the Netherlands to further enhance our core technology as well as governmental and mobility contacts to collaborate with globally and enable our core roll-out in the Netherlands. Local knowledge of public and private transport and mobility providers as well as disability charity contacts would be a benefit.

We are also seeking strategic investment through so looking for like-minded investors.



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eSwapp is a mobile application for skill swapping eg: swapping design service for piano lessons, or swapping barista training for marketing skills. Our vision is to be a pioneer in using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to encourage human interaction in real life for millennials aged 18 to 30, who value experiences over physical possessions and are looking to improve their knowledge and experience, but have less disposable income to do so. eSwapp's mobile platform applies the latest Machine Learning methods (Bayes matching, Graph Mining matching, and A* search algorithms) to instantly find the best matches for skill swapping based on deep learning of user characteristics and behaviours. We provide users with two novel approaches to swapping skills: A closed-loop swap and an opened-loop swap. Our three-layer mathematical model includes predictive learning to discover hidden talents.

Social inclusion is our vision and core value. Our business model is to achieve great profitability with societal benefits. We address three challenges in the Agenda for Sustainable Development: Goal 5: Gender Equality, Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, Goal 10: Reduced Inequality.

eSwapp's value proposition is to be a collaborative platform powered by game-changing AI innovation, helping millennials to get a lifestyle they want, whatever their current income, within a secure environment.

OBJECTIVES

- Seeking finance
- Finding collaborative partners in the Netherlands for R&D and experimental implementation of the project
- Potential collaboration for private investments (angel investment, venture capital etc.) and EU grants such as Horizon 2020 SME Instrument and Fast Track to Innovation



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Homeodynamic Autonomy Ltd (HAL) helps businesses, both large and small, increase their competitive advantage, through developing highly efficient production systems that their competition cannot match. We have generated over £7 million in R&D grant funding for over 30 of our clients and collaborators and specialise in facilitating flow processing in high variability work environments that have diverse and/or highly customised products and processes, high levels of process complexity and resulting production disruptions.

Benefits to clients include: improved due date delivery performance, order-to-delivery lead times, productivity levels, quality, resource usage efficiency, equipment operating efficiency and reduced costs, job queuing, resource wastage, scrap and rework and equipment idle time.

HAL offers both a (i) Standard 3-day improvement approach, i.e. Day 1: Diagnostics, analysis and improvement planning, Day 2: Improvement implementation and Day 3: Post-implementation auditing for sustainment, and a (ii) Customised Improvement Approach which is recommended for whole- or sub-system improvements consisting of diagnostic, analysis, planning, implementation, auditing and sustainment planning steps.

We also help SMEs to engage in product- and process-based innovative CRD projects and, where possible, seek technology development funding on their behalf to pursue these projects.

Examples of our clients and partners include MNEs Rolls-Royce PLC, Caterpillar BCD, TATA Steel UK and Remanufacturing SMEs MCT, RecoTurbo Ltd and Aspire Engineering Ltd, Creative Industry SMEs Legendary Games and ION Animation Ltd.

OBJECTIVES

Before beginning commercialization, HAL's products require further development and de-risking, e.g.

- Spreadsheet functionality for building Autonomous Activity Resource Planning and Coordination needs AI-based hormonal-change and immune-protection functionality
- Robotic System Implementation products for (i) robot comparison with product and process specifications, robot selection and flexibility measurement, robot cell scale-up management and animation-based robot assembly planning and control

HAL seeks organisations experienced in above for exploring potential sources and methods of funding, e.g. Business Growth Partnerships and Funding Competitions.



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Intelligent Machines Ltd (IM) provides consultancy services to industry in robotics, automation and the design of mechatronic devices. This includes the build of innovative prototypes and occasionally small batches of product. In addition, IM is developing a number of novel actuator mechanisms that will be sold as piece parts and/or built into complete robotic solutions for sale. IM founder Tim Jones has decades of experience designing novel robotic devices and complex mechatronic systems and brings a creative flair to problem-solving in a cost-effective way.

OBJECTIVES

My objective is to understand more about the state of technological development in continental Europe, find collaborative partners and possible robot modules/parts that might be relevant for incorporation into robotic solutions and identify business opportunities.



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Intelligent Robots Ltd is a British frontier tech start-up developing autonomous mobile robots (AMR) and robotic consultancy services for intra-logistical environments. Its goal is to democratise robotic technology and free humans from performing hazardous or mundane tasks. With nearly 3 years of R&D backing, the company, including a successful Innovate UK project, has produced a fleet of collaborative AMRs to transit goods and materials within supply-chain processes and is progressing to multiple use cases in May '19. Competitive advantages are demonstrated in the platform's innovative flexibility and modular approach to eliminating warehousing pain points. Currently, Intelligent Robots is designing/producing its next generation AMR platform with improved functionality and higher payload, with the aim to commercialise in Q1 '20.

OBJECTIVES

Intelligent Robots requires support for supply-chain set-up, market readiness, intellectual property exploitation, development of market/product strategy and resellers/distributors. In this context, strategic alliances and EU partnerships are integral to industrial success. An open ecosystem consisting of collaborative Dutch partners is a crucial step bridging innovative R&D efforts with effective commercial exploitation on a pan-EU scale.



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Perceptual Robots employs a revolutionary approach to developing robots. Inspired by biological systems, the result is a simple, powerful and universal architecture enabling robotic systems to conquer dynamic and chaotic environments. Departing from conventional wisdom, behaviour is about acting in the world in order to perceive as we want it to be, not about reacting to stimuli or predicting specific outputs.

The RAPTA platform we are developing enables users to design goal-based robot control systems within a 'drag-and-drop' graphical environment. There is no need to write programming code, so it allows users to avoid the algorithmic mindset and think radically, in terms of the internal motivations of the robot. Users are able to configure the hierarchical control systems, deploy them to the robots, execute them and monitor the live system, changing parameters in real-time. The result is innovative robot control systems that replicate the adaptive and purposeful nature of humans, in stark contrast to the rigid, inflexibility of current systems. Robots developed with our unique approach are inherently adaptive and intelligent and with the potential to provide new solutions to existing and future robotics challenges.

OBJECTIVES

Our objectives are to find innovative partners in robotics and associated technologies to collaborate on funded feasibility studies and development projects, to explore the current robotics market and to research potential applications and use cases for our technology. For research and development, we are also looking for collaborations to develop our new approaches to self-organising machine learning and active computer vision for robotics.



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Service Robotics is dedicated to bringing the benefits of robotics and AI to ordinary people, to improve their lives. We are launching Genie Connect®, a completely voice-enabled intelligent, personalised, robot companion service supporting extended independent living with companionship and memory stimulation software - for older adults. We will offer GenieConnect to users at an affordable all-inclusive monthly subscription.

The features of the Genie robot include an interactive companion, offering reminders, video calling to family and friends and smart home management, as well as monitoring of the user environment remotely by family and a real-time video support function that connects the user to a dedicated 24x7 Care Centre. The friendly service agent, with their knowledge of the user's likes and dislikes, routines and needs, will answer their queries.

GenieConnect will help older adults living alone to alleviate loneliness, which is becoming an epidemic in Western society, and accounts for the large increase in mental health problems and the subsequent challenge for our care systems. It will do this by offering human to human connectivity through our dedicated Care Centre, and also voice-enabled access to video calls with friends and family. Shared interest groups will also connect subscribers to like-minded people for companionship around mutual interests.

We will be launching a pilot project of 150 robots in the UK in 2019.

OBJECTIVES

Service Robotics is a start-up and has been successful in securing seed investment. For the next stage we are looking for angel investment.

We are also seeking partner health tech and smart home solutions to add to our solution and our open ecosystem of app developers.

We are also interested in talking to potential partners/resellers for the Netherlands market.



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Tharsus are one of the UK's fastest growing technology businesses. We are outsourced product developers and contract manufacturers of strategic Advanced Machine/Robotic products, working (undercover) with a number for FTSE 100's, Innovative start-ups, leading European universities and some of the world's largest organisations across Agriculture, Logistics, Food Processing, Automotive, Aviation, Retail and everything in-between.

We're probably best known for the work we've done with Ocado and essentially bring specialist Robotic and Future technology expertise to our client's teams - providing a low-risk route and environment for our clients to solve today's challenges and develop tomorrow's game-changing technologies – operating completely complementary to our clients existing technical and production capability.

OBJECTIVES

- Find collaborative partners (technical and manufacturing related)
- Cultivate new business opportunities (people looking to create their own advanced machine and robotic products and who need support)
- Gain access to service robotic research and market insights

IMAGE NOT IN
FOLDER

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United Robots (UR) are providers of intelligent AI devices designed for use in industrial spaces. Our technology allows robots to operate and navigate autonomously in mid- to large public spaces e.g. supermarkets, warehouses, hospitals and airports. Our robots can evaluate surroundings and make informed decisions regarding the navigation and mapping process.

We pride ourselves on engagement with clients to understand their needs and agree implementation plans. Our robots offer safe and intelligent ways of detecting and avoiding obstacles i.e. by stopping the robot or rerouting if required. The single-pass mapping feature allows for efficient path planning. Smooth data capture and cloud-based storage provide means for accurate management reporting and Vfm trend analysis.

Compared to similar products on the market, UR robots offer unique features such as object classification which is essential to correctly distinguish human shapes from objects. Human detection is important for smart route planning, in particular in busy industrial areas. Our cleaning robots include unique functionality such as dust classification and self-cleaning.

We are here to help our clients streamline their business processes while increasing their ability to increase profitability, cost-effectiveness and capacity.

OBJECTIVES

We are looking forward to networking with same-minded start-ups, share ideas and concepts to define the best roadmap for United Robots. Being part of a wider AI community would help us put our ideas into practice and focus on AI solutions, direction of robotics and challenges.



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Volume is an award-winning, Gartner-recognised vendor of end-to-end AI consulting services and offers the following products and services:

Big Brain Chatbot – an award-winning AI-powered conversational framework that seamlessly plugs into existing infrastructure, to deliver an engaging customer experience. It is helping organisations to accommodate the evolving needs of the digital customer; from the 'search' to 'ask' generation – enabling a positive customer experience, providing information at point of need. The framework is multi-lingual, omnichannel, understands sentiment, long and short-term memory and has a built-in human-in-the-loop feature and can be adapted to accommodate a variety of industries and business applications. Volume's team of AI experts have experience developing NLP data models across a range of platforms and understand how to create positive experiences whatever the subject matter. The Big Brain Chatbot can also be plugged into physical hardware such as Pepper the humanoid robot, VR/AR/MR headsets and totem screens.

QBox – The firm's proprietary SaaS solution helps organisations to scale their chatbots effectively, whatever the industry, to ensure customers and users are served a correct response at every interaction. QBox visualises and scores natural language data model performance and allows teams to adjust the most critical intents.

OBJECTIVES

As an established leader in Conversational AI and NLP in the UK, Volume seeks to expand its footprint into Europe by forging strong relationships with international businesses and establishing potential research partners.

Volume's primary objectives for participating in the programme are as follows:

- Finding collaborative partners
- Identifying new business opportunities
- Gaining local sector expertise
- An opportunity to network with other thriving UK-based AI companies

