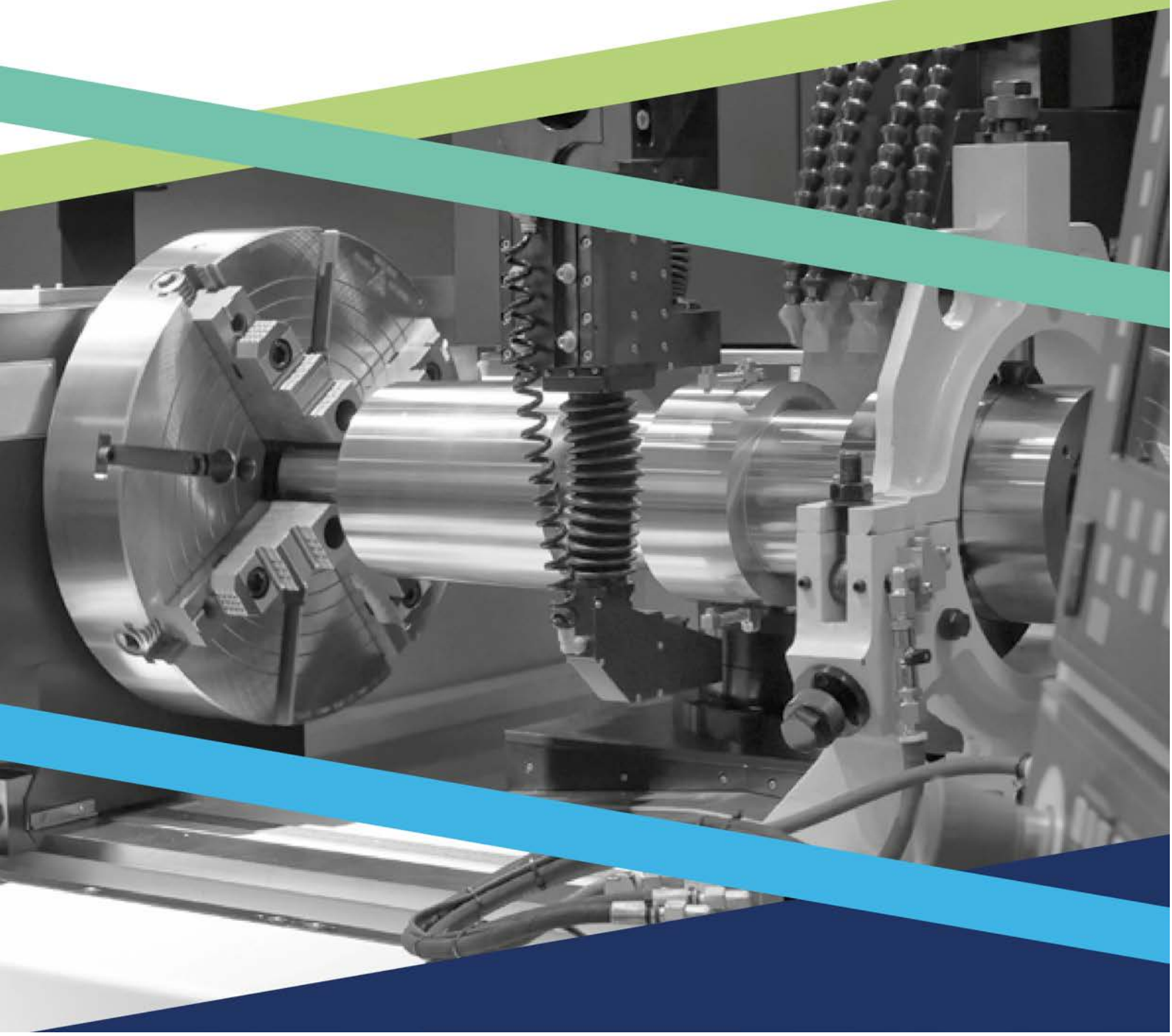


MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network

The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) established a Northern hub with the aim of supporting regional manufacturing SMEs to help them to achieve their full potential to become competitive within a challenging worldwide market. NPL will offer its extensive expertise in measurement and product verification related services to help SME Manufacturers to identify appropriate validation methods within their business with the aim of increasing efficiency, reducing waste and improving product quality.

The NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network has been created to make this process as simple and seamless as possible – with two levels of membership available. The aim of the Network is to enable the members to benefit from NPL's expertise with the view of optimising productivity and increasing confidence in their products, keeping their businesses at the forefront of measurement and validation technology.

National Physical Laboratory

NPL is a world-leading centre in the development and application of highly accurate measurement techniques. As the UK's national standards laboratory, NPL underpins the national measurements system, ensuring consistency and traceability of measurements throughout the UK. We offer a unique range of measurement services, contract research, consultancy and training services. Other areas of expertise include the design and characterisation of engineering materials and mathematical software, especially its application to measurement and instrumentation.

Membership Schedule

Eligibility Criteria

In order to become a member the applicant business must be either a manufacturing company or a business that offers direct support to manufacturing . SME manufacturers must meet the criteria for SME as defined by the European Commission in EU recommendation 2003/361 – a summary is shown here:

Company category	Staff headcount	Turnover per year	or Balance sheet total
Medium-sized	< 250	≤ € 50 m	≤ € 43 m
Small	< 50	≤ € 10 m	≤ € 10 m
Micro	< 10	≤ € 2 m	≤ € 2 m

These figures apply to individual firms only. A firm that is part of a larger group may need to include staff headcount/turnover/balance sheet data from that group too. Businesses with a significant share ownership from a larger company may not be eligible.

A general User guide to the SME Definition provides more information.

The NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network is open to SMEs operating in the sector of manufacturing processes, including support services such as design, testing and material modification/improvement. It is also open to larger manufacturing businesses who may wish to engage with SME manufacturers as part of their supply chain.

The Network is targeted to companies based in the European Parliamentary Constituencies of North East, North West and Yorkshire & The Humber. Applications from manufacturing SMEs from other areas will be considered on a case by case basis.

Membership Services

Type 1 = SME Manufacturer

Type 2 = Large Manufacturer

Type 3 = Affiliate (manufacturing support organisation)

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
25% Discount on NPL North of England Commercial Services	Y		
Annual artefact check	Y		
Temperature survey	Y		
Access to NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network events	Y	Y	Y
Telephone support	Y		
Product Verification assessment (PV)	*	*	
Training Needs Analysis (TNA)	*	*	
Cost	Free	Free	£120 pcy

*** at additional cost, a quotation will be provided on request**

25% discount on NPL North of England Commercial Services

NPL provides a wide variety of measurement and other support services including:

- Measurement services (CMM or manual)
- Reverse engineering
- CMM programming
- Bespoke training
- Access to NPL equipment (supervised)
- Technology evaluation
- Problem solving
- Consultancy
- Research & Development

(together, the “**Commercial Services**”)

Where NPL provides a quotation for Commercial Services to Members, the quotation will include a 25% discount on its prevailing hourly rate for such services at the time of quotation.

Annual artefact check

NPL uses calibrated artefacts to validate its measurement performance, providing a suitable artefact to be measured using the member’s usual procedures and equipment and then analysing the member’s data and providing feedback on the quality of the measurement process. This is designed to help

members understand how well the current product validation processes are performing and to correct any issues that may be highlighted.

Temperature survey

Temperature variations have a significant effect on the accuracy of measurements and affect the validity of the inspection process. Better temperature control can result in higher accuracy measurement and improved confidence in the product. Understanding the effect of temperature in your environment will give members awareness of how this affects or constrains manufacturing processes. It also allows members to model how better control may lead to new opportunities.

Membership Services *continued*

Access to NPL Manufacturer Measurement Network events

NPL hosts quarterly events aimed at keeping members up to speed with latest measurement best practice and technology, and a platform to discuss measurement issues and opportunities. Instrument manufacturers and guest speakers will be invited to share with members the latest information and ideas on SME manufacturing.

Telephone support

Applicable Members will have access to an NPL helpline for advice throughout the term of the contract. The frequency of calls is expected to be of a level which does not constitute a consultancy service or other support measure – such level to be determined by NPL in its sole discretion.

Product Verification (PV) assessment

A PV assessment can help members identify areas to improve efficiencies, reduce waste, raise product quality, demonstrate compliance and make the business more competitive. The process includes a visit by NPL measurement experts assessing manufacturing activities, and the output of the assessment is a report highlighting potential areas of improvement.

Training Needs Analysis (TNA)

TNA is a method by which NPL can help members determine what skills the business needs to meet technical (product verification related) demands and compare these to current staff skills. The outcome is a gap analysis identifying what training is required and advice on how it may be obtained.

Membership Tiers and Fees

Type membership (SME Manufacturer) – free of charge for one year of membership

Type 2 membership (Large Manufacturer) – free of charge for one year of membership

Type 3 membership (Affiliate) - £120 per calendar year

All memberships will be based on a calendar year January to December inclusive and any charges will be pro-rata from the time of membership until the end of the calendar year.

Membership Standard Terms and Conditions

To see Terms and Conditions please go to: <http://www.npl.co.uk/mmn-terms>

Membership Application Member Information

Company/Name:

Address:

Contact:

Phone:

Email:

Proposed membership type:

Please ensure you have read and fully understood the Membership Standard Terms and Conditions before submitting your Membership Application

Print name:

Signature:

Title:

Date:

Please complete and email back the form to mmnetwork@npl.co.uk or post to the NPL North of England address below.

NPL North of England

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3M Buckley Innovation Centre, Firth Street, Huddersfield, Yorkshire UK, HD1 3BD

www.npl.co.uk/mmn

