Student Projects are a great way for local SMEs to connect with The University of Nottingham and increase their competitiveness by tapping into our world-leading expertise.

What is a Student Project?

A Student Project is an opportunity to engage our students to undertake a short-term project for your business with expert input from their academic supervisor. These projects form part of the curriculum for our students and are an integral part of many of the courses across The University of Nottingham.

How does it work in Product Design and Manufacture?

Our Product Design and Manufacture students undertake a major project in their final year of study. Students from both our BEng and MEng courses undertake these projects.

Your business provides a brief for a product that needs designing. We match your brief to a student who can carry out the activity on your behalf, under the supervision of a team of design tutors all with industry experience.

Projects typically take place over a period of 17 weeks and commence in January. There is no charge to your business, but you will be required to nominate a contact to liaise with the student throughout the process to ensure the design work is on track.

Timeline

- Christmas - Final deadline for project briefs to be submitted
- January - Student matched to project, project commences
- May - Project completed, detailed design finished, fully documented and ready for a production prototype (dependant on complexity of product).

Benefits

- No financial cost – an economic way of exploring/developing your product ideas.
- High quality research designed around your business needs with professional designer supervision.
- A way to establish and strengthen links with the University of Nottingham for future collaborations.
- An insight into high quality talent that could become part of your future workforce.

Case Study: MEng Project with an SME

The business: Boddingtons Technical Plastics

Boddingtons is an injection moulding company based in Kent. It has been running for over 60 years and is part of a privately owned group of manufacturing companies.

The project:

Boddingtons had exclusive access to a new additive to thermoplastics that greatly increased impact absorption properties to polymers. They asked one of our students to design an all plastic ammunitions box for the MOD. The aim was to reduce weight and to improve the logistics and safety of the container. Our student did this, working with the British Army, Royal Ordinance and Boddingtons themselves to come up with his final design. This design has now been prototyped and is currently under testing with the MOD.
# Student Project Enquiry

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<td>Date of incorporation &amp; company number:</td>
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**Project idea:**

**CONTACT US**
- Phone: 0115 7484783
- Email: gemma.morgan-jones@nottingham.ac.uk