AEON Engineering

Created following support from STFC, AEON Engineering specialises in providing professionally managed engineering solutions for complex, dynamic and multi-faceted engineering problems. They are providing their unique expertise to some of the biggest science projects ever conceived.

AEON Engineering’s founding members were involved in the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project, due to be the world’s largest radio telescope, whilst working at the University of Manchester. From here, they spotted an opportunity to create a new systems engineering company.

AEON Engineering is currently leading the systems engineering for the SKA Signal and Data Transport (SaDT) Consortium, described as the backbone for the telescope. The SaDT element includes all hardware and software necessary for the transmission of data and information between the various elements of the SKA. One of the biggest challenges for SKA is the problem posed by the sheer volume of data that will be created, requiring the handling of data volumes, provision of high-performance computing and design of software that are thousands of times larger than the world’s current radio observatories.

STFC plans, develops, constructs and provides access to cutting-edge science facilities used by UK researchers across a range of scientific disciplines. We seek to maximise the economic return to the UK through promoting tender opportunities for UK companies from our international projects. Over the past 10 years, UK companies have won over £220 million in contracts from our UK-supported international facilities. This demonstrates the scale of opportunities available to companies such as AEON.

AEON’s founders have previously worked alongside STFC, providing design solutions for two aspects of the ATLAS High-Luminosity project. ATLAS is one of four detectors at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the world’s largest and most powerful particle collider. The high-luminosity project aims to upgrade the performance of the LHC and its detectors in order to increase the potential for new and exciting discoveries. It will allow the observation of rare processes that are inaccessible at the LHC’s current sensitivity level.

With AEON Engineering being located in the North West of England, the hope is to maintain strong links with the University of Manchester and the SKA headquarters, located at Jodrell Bank Observatory, with the hope of securing further opportunities and boosting economic development for the region.

1. https://skatelescope.org/project/
2. https://stfc.ukri.org/files/tender-factsheet-web-2018/- UK industry has won £221,625,807 in industrial contracts from 2007-2017 from CERN, ILL, ESRF and ESO. This amount has been converted into pounds from Euros and Swiss Francs using the average annual exchange rates from the Bank of England for the past 10 years.
3. https://stfc.ukri.org/innovation/tender-opportunities/
4. https://home.cern/topics/high-luminosity-lhc