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18 January 2017

Institution of Agricultural Engineers (IAgrE) launch agricultural engineering innovation survey on behalf of government at LAMMA

How many UK engineering and manufacturing companies will be in a position to develop the innovative ideas evolving as a result of the government's Agri-Tech strategy funding?

"IAgrE today launches a survey designed to answer this question," said Alastair Taylor, CEO of IAgrE. "We will be looking at how ready UK industry is to develop the engineering and manufacturing supply chain opportunities that will arise as new Agri-Tech systems develop," said Alastair Taylor CEO of IAgrE.

Starting at LAMMA, IAgrE will be questioning engineers to get a snapshot of how fit businesses are to meet this challenge.

"There are some serious questions to be asked. For example, I wonder how many engineering and manufacturing companies are embracing the opportunities which are coming out of AgriTech. Are they well placed to use technologies such as rapid prototyping, computer coding, electronics applications, 3D printing, novel sensors and robotics?" added Alastair."

The survey will also cover aspects of education and training and how engineers overcome any barriers to introducing new technologies and whether companies understand and use the grant and funding opportunities available from government departments such as Innovate UK.

As well as reporting to the agricultural engineering industry, the results will be analysed and shared with the government Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

This new report is the second to be prepared by the Institution. The first, published in 2012 was stimulated by discussions with the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser and others and called "Agricultural Engineering – a key discipline enabling agriculture to deliver global food security."

You can access the survey here:

www.iagre.org/agri-tech-systems-survey

iagre.org

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Notes for editors:

IAgrE is the professional body for scientists, technologists, engineers, academics, managers and students working in the landbased sector and has an international membership base.

As a licensed body of the Engineering Council (EngC) and a founding Constituent Body of The Society for the Environment (SocEnv), IAgrE registers suitably experienced professionals as Chartered Engineers, Chartered Environmentalists, Incorporated Engineers and Engineering Technicians.

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