

# Five reasons to buy from the UK

Our ideas change the world.  
See what they can do for you.







## Discover UK innovation

You're in business to deliver profit, to make a difference, and to find the edge that will place you above competitors.

While this is easy to aim for, the challenges to success are greater than ever before. The playing field is constantly changing and even the biggest businesses must adapt, innovate, and improve.

The UK provides businesses around the world with opportunities to access the cutting edge of innovation, whilst being confident in the quality and stability of their purchases.

We punch above our weight in exports and boast a highly capable export support market. The UK is more ready than ever to collaborate with you and be your global partner in business.

**Marshmallow Laser Feast** map environments to sub-millimetre accuracy to create virtual reality experiences.



# Change starts here

We embrace change and always have. Consider pioneers like Newton, Faraday, Darwin and – more recently – Sir Tim Berners-Lee, Sir James Dyson and Professor Sarah Gilbert. Innovation in the UK paves the way for the global future.

The UK creates innovation and entrepreneurship like nowhere else. Our universities are recognized as some of the best in the world, delivering breakthrough research and producing exceptional talent. In our regional technology clusters, business meets international research bodies, to drive game-changing innovation that shapes our world.

World-respected legislation offers strong protection for intellectual property, and government investment ensures that innovation remains at the centre of the UK's growth.

**CMR Surgical** are transforming the future of operating rooms by using innovative robotic systems to improve hospital experiences and treatment for patients.



**UK businesses can help yours to grow. These 5 reasons show you how.**

# 5 reasons to buy

We are ready for collaboration and the opportunity to work with your business to achieve success.

**1**

**We never accept the status quo**

**4**

**With you for the long run**

**2**

**We're ready for the challenges of tomorrow**

**5**

**It's time to trade with us**

**3**

**Our businesses are at the cutting edge**



# We never accept the status quo

Born from a foundation of research, industry and innovation, the UK constantly searches for ways to do things better, more efficiently, and more cost-effectively.

Individuals, research groups, institutions and businesses have a strong pedigree stretching back years in producing major scientific and technology advances that have changed our world.

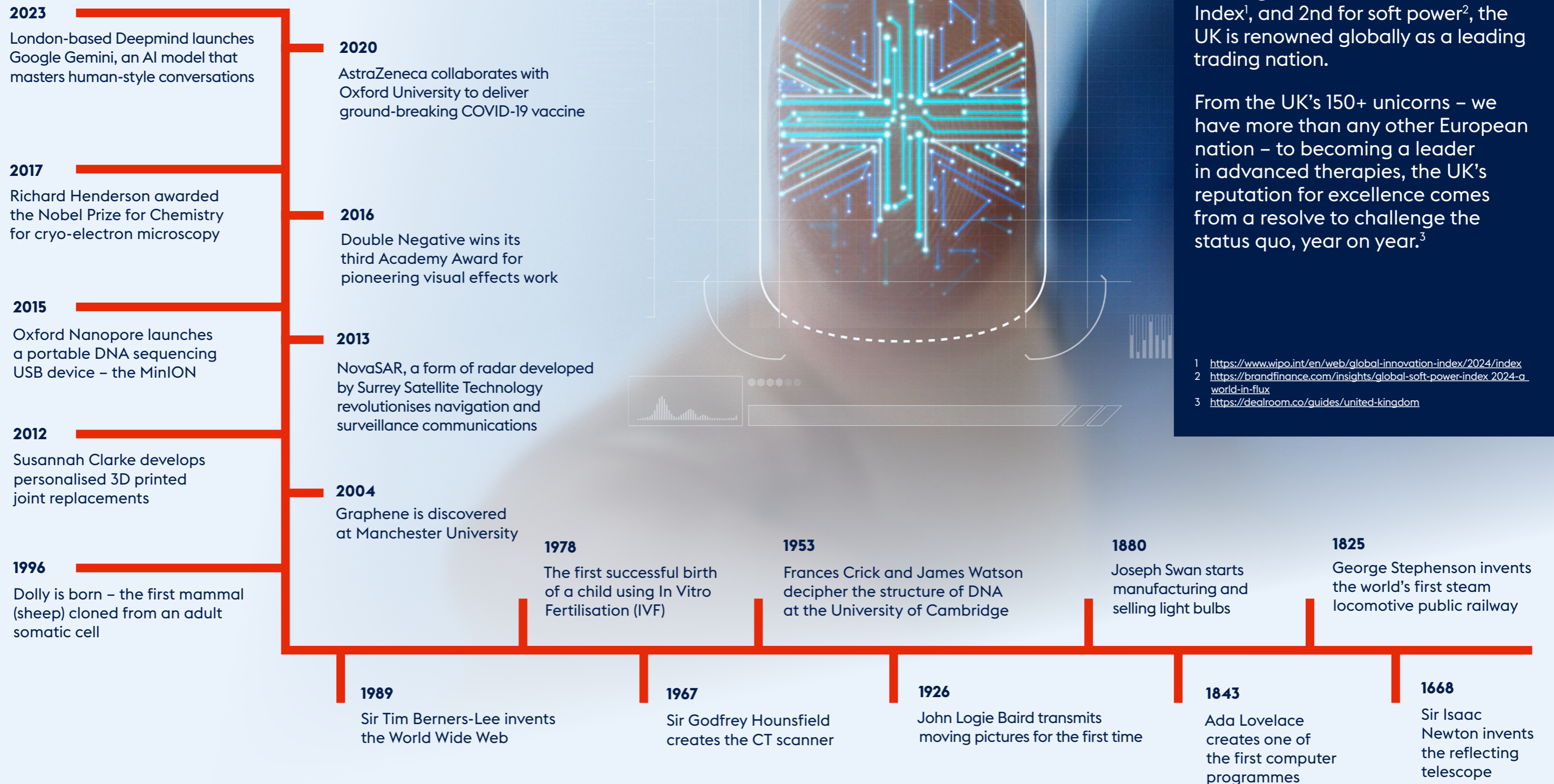
From the discovery of penicillin in 1928 or the structure of DNA in 1953, to present-day advancements in medical imaging and pre-eminent genetic sequencing capabilities, it is clear to see the UK's consistent contributions to modern innovation.



## Inventing year on year

Whatever your sector, you can take advantage of a wealth of original ideas and solutions and depend on UK businesses to make them work for you.

### A long history of invention




### Innovating through businesses

The UK's capacity and drive to constantly innovate has always been recognised on the world stage. Ranking 5th in the Global Innovation Index<sup>1</sup>, and 2nd for soft power<sup>2</sup>, the UK is renowned globally as a leading trading nation.

From the UK's 150+ unicorns – we have more than any other European nation – to becoming a leader in advanced therapies, the UK's reputation for excellence comes from a resolve to challenge the status quo, year on year.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/global-innovation-index/2024/index>  
<sup>2</sup> <https://brandfinance.com/insights/global-soft-power-index-2024-a-world-in-flux>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://dealroom.co/guides/united-kingdom>



# We're ready for the challenges of tomorrow

The UK is not content with delivering innovation just today. We are looking forward, identifying the pivotal opportunities of tomorrow, and how UK businesses can help you capitalise on these.

The UK helps you get ahead. In today's competitive global marketplace, there are three key strategies that the UK is employing to maintain its vanguard position:

1. through ambitious government investment into pivotal sectors and regions
2. curating top talent from across the globe
3. enabling your business through comprehensive financial support



I believe passionately that the UK gives India something that it needs desperately: great design and deep technology. And for us, to get to that level would take us multiple years.”

– T.V. Mohandas Pai, Chairman, Aarin Capital and Manipal Global Education, former director of Infosys



# A government building for businesses

With expertise across a range of fields, from life sciences to emerging technologies such as AI, the UK is home to some of the best businesses in the world. We are primed to help you take the next step in your industry. Our global lead in the development and rollout of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine programme is a prime demonstration of the science, technology and innovation ecosystem value here.

The UK is investing in the industries of tomorrow, capitalising on new growth in offshore wind, autonomous vehicles, and nuclear power generation, advancing future industries to be one step ahead of the competition and capitalising on greater regulatory flexibility.

As part of the Plan for Growth, the UK is leading the way to build infrastructure, scale-up skills, and enable innovation in every region across our nations. These investments will ensure that UK businesses are even more innovative and accessible than ever before.

The UK has an ambitious programme of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations to help our nation become a truly Global Britain. By negotiating FTAs and building relationships with our trading partners, we are breaking down barriers to trade and supporting growth, jobs and higher wages for UK workers.





# Homegrown talent creating tomorrow

The UK ranks second globally on the number of universities in the top 200, allowing UK businesses to benefit from leading research, giving them the cutting edge.<sup>4</sup>

A culture of collaboration across industry, government and academia allows businesses to tap into expertise and capacity wherever it exists to ramp up production as quickly and efficiently as possible. The Oxford-Cambridge arc represents unique opportunities for companies that require technical and scientific R&D, and UK businesses can take advantage of the world-leading research on their doorsteps.

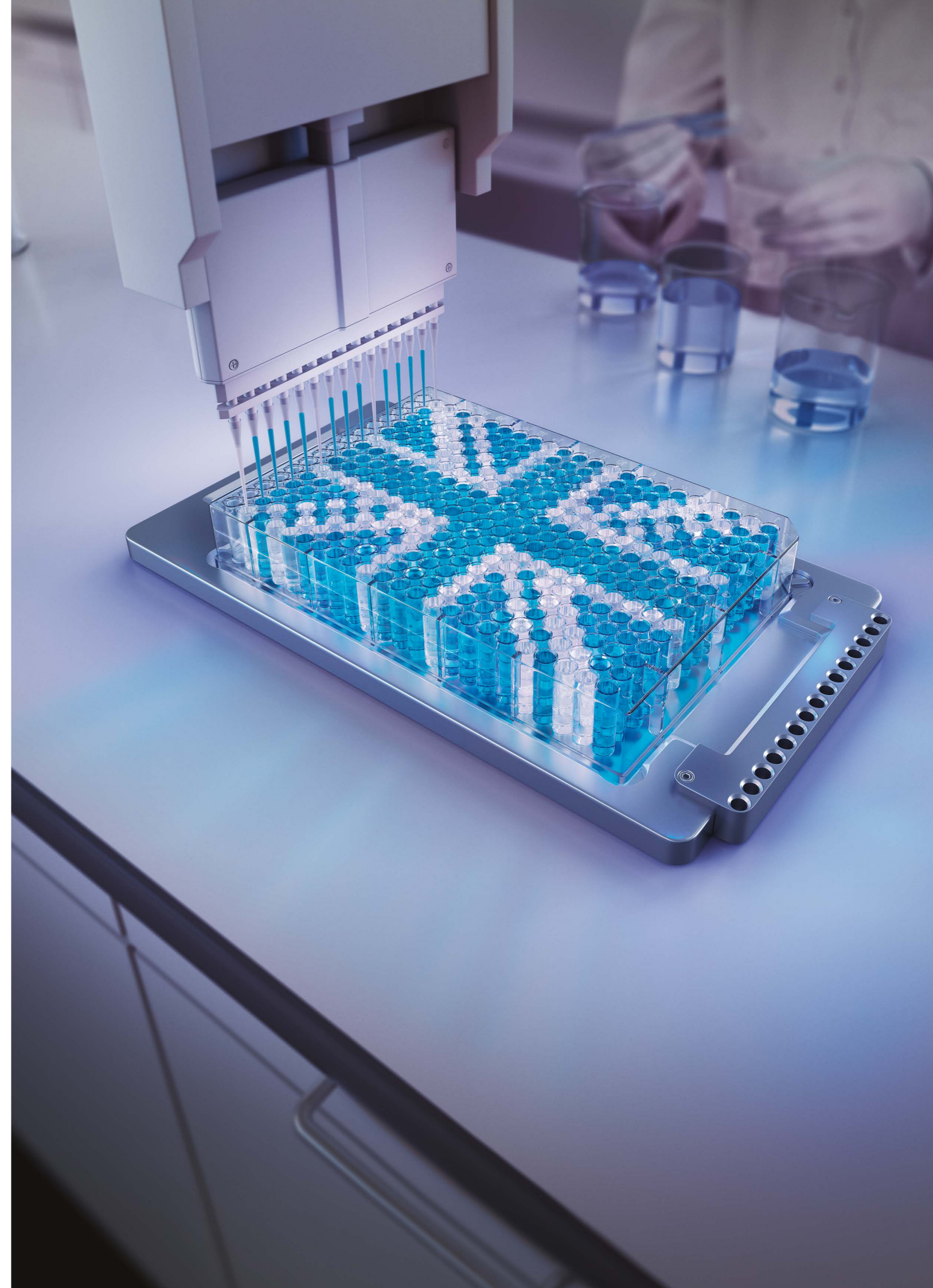
Government finance is enabling British businesses to continue to innovate and maintain their position as global visionaries.

UK businesses help you to retain your position on the forefront of cutting-edge industry, from producing exceptional wind turbines to outstanding fintech products and services.

The UK is already a destination for global talent, attracting top class researchers into our universities. The UK is the third most popular study destination in the world for international students, and we retain the highest caliber of talent with our Global Talent visa.<sup>5</sup> This means that when you buy British, you can be confident that you're benefitting from both industry and academic expertise.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/latest/world-ranking>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/universities-uk-international/insights-and-publications/uuki-publications/international-facts-and-figures-2023>





# Finance that helps you access UK innovation

UK Export Finance (UKEF) is the UK government's export credit agency. Established in 1919 as the world's first export credit agency, UKEF helps companies like yours access UK goods and services through its innovative, flexible and competitive financing terms.

UKEF can help support exports to over 200 countries in over 60 currencies.<sup>6</sup> In 2023-2024, UKEF provided £8.8 billion in support of UK exports<sup>7</sup>, across a range of sectors, including construction, infrastructure and renewable energy.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Gov UK (2021): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-export-finance-leading-with-finance-product-brochure/uk-export-finance-leading-with-finance-all-products>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-export-finance-annual-report-and-accounts-2023-to-2024/uk-export-finance-annual-report-and-accounts-2023-to-2024#our-impact>

<sup>8</sup> UK Export Finance (2021), (pg.1) : [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/995847/UK\\_Export\\_Finance\\_Performance\\_Highlights\\_2020\\_to\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/995847/UK_Export_Finance_Performance_Highlights_2020_to_2021.pdf)





# Our businesses are at the cutting edge

UK businesses can help propel you to the forefront of your sector. From renewable energy to consumer goods, innovation is at the heart of UK business.

“

We are so proud to be part of a Global Britain that leads the world with its incredible range of industries – from science and research to business, finance and pharma and, of course, the arts and culture.”

Sean Doyle, British Airways  
Chairman and Chief Executive



# UK agri-tech bringing the best to the table

From farm to fork, the UK is home to exceptional food and drink. Whether it be the Cornish pasty or Scotch Whisky, great British food is rooted in heritage and tradition spanning countless generations.

As the largest exporter of spirits worldwide<sup>9</sup>, British drinks are a staple for bars, pubs and restaurants globally. Countries look to the UK for the highest quality produce, whether it is British Beef, Scottish Salmon, or our world-famous West Country Cheddar. With our highly regulated and traceable supply chain, your consumers globally can revel in the quality and satisfaction from British products.

UK agri-tech is revolutionising the way we feed more people, more efficiently. We led the second agricultural revolution at the turn of the 20th century and we're still leading as the world prepares for the fourth. Today, UK businesses are at the forefront of Precision agri-tech, using environmental management and earth observation, sensors, big data, artificial intelligence, and robotics to reduce waste and increase efficiency.

<sup>9</sup> Statista (2021): <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1039949/global-spirit-export-leader-by-country/>

## Case Study

**Levity Crop Science.** Levity Crop Science is experiencing record global demand for its crop enhancement products, with over 70% of its revenue a result of exports into new markets and expansion in the United States.<sup>10</sup> The company, which has developed products to help farmers close the gap between potential and average yields, has seen sales double each year for three years through strong growth in new and existing export markets. The company has a strong research and development emphasis and develops products that help make fertilisers more efficient, and which reduce the impact of climate stress on crops. Farmers using Levity Crop Science's products see huge benefits in terms of yield, quality, shelf-life, and ability to withstand stress from challenging growing conditions.

<sup>10</sup> Gov UK (2021): <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/us-exports-leads-to-1m-exports-boom-for-levity-crop-science>





# UK technology creates a competitive advantage

With innovators like Alan Turing and Tim Berners-Lee creating the foundations of today's technical world, it's no surprise that the UK is the home of truly outstanding tech.

As the tech unicorn capital of Europe<sup>11</sup>, the UK is an incubator for start-ups, capitalising on revolutionary products using new capabilities. From 5G, helping us get online faster than ever before, to leading cyber security, keeping our data safe from harm – the UK is the destination of choice for tech.

## Europe's AI Hub

Innovative technology developed by UK companies helps your business grow. AI is a prime example. On one hand, it helps build smart machines that perform extraordinarily complex tasks. On the other, it makes everyday jobs faster, more natural, and more accurate through machine and deep learning.

In 2023 the number of AI companies increased year-on-year by 17% to an estimated total of 3,713 firms.<sup>12</sup>

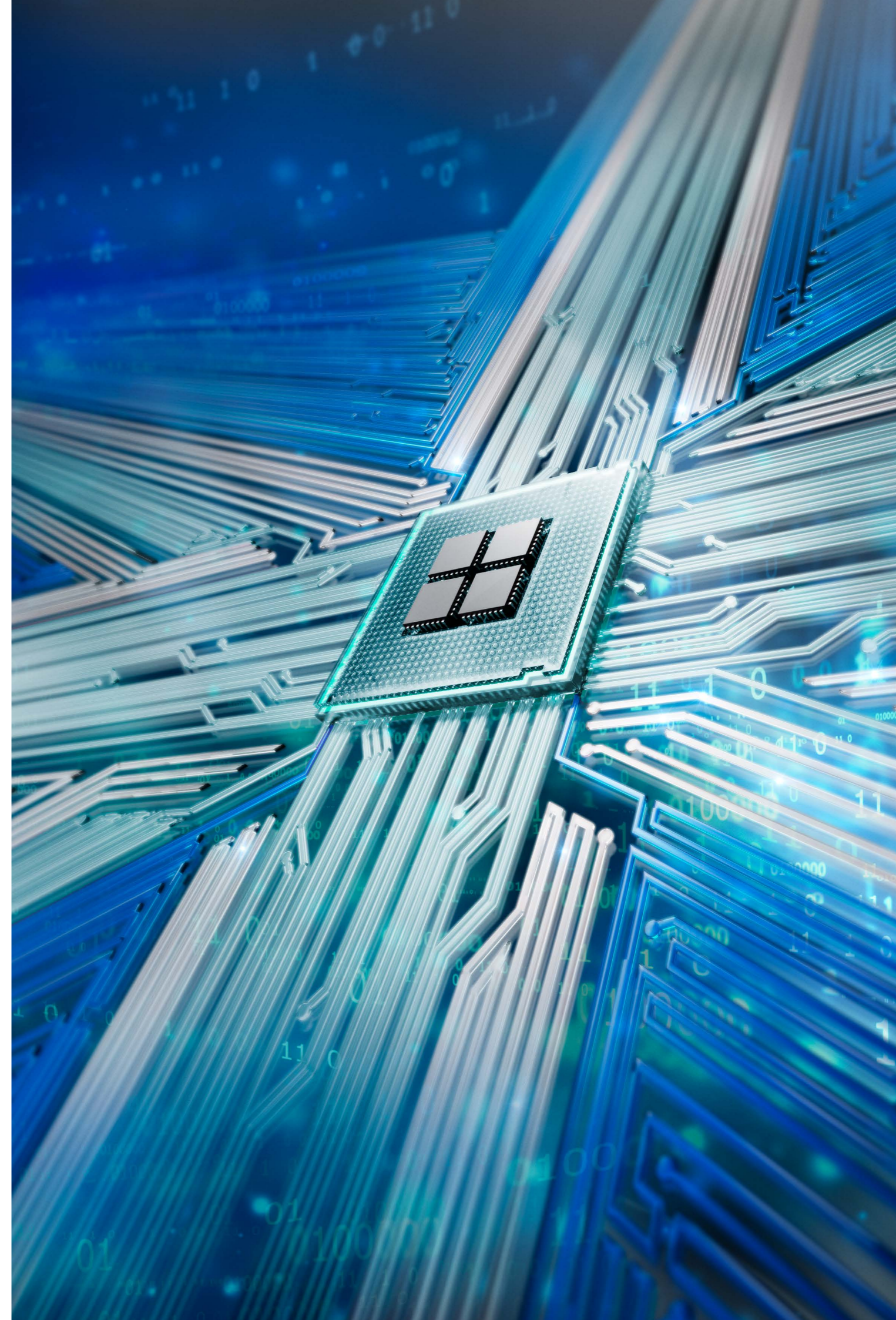
### Case Study

**Speechmatics.** As global experts in deep learning and speech intelligence, Speechmatics provides speech recognition technology that understands every voice. Businesses globally use Speechmatics to accurately understand and transcribe human-level speech into text regardless of demographic, pitch, accent, dialect, or country. With offices in four locations and notably an office in Denver, Colorado, Speechmatics is set to capitalise on its major US export growth. Despite the worldwide pandemic, 2020 saw the deep learning company increase its global revenues by over 50%. Speechmatics' export growth signifies the scale of international demand for UK expertise in deep learning. Sales to the US accounted for 54% of the Cambridge company's revenues in 2020, up from 43% in 2019.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> <https://dealroom.co/guides/united-kingdom>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-sector-study-2023/artificial-intelligence-sector-study-2023>

<sup>13</sup> Companies House. Cantab Research Limited (2020). (pg.26) <https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/05697423/filing-history/MzMxODQ2NjAxNWZkaXF6a2N4/document?format=pdf&download=0>





# UK creative industries fire the imagination

The UK is home to a vast creative services sector. The industry covers a remarkable range of sub-sectors, from architecture to publishing, with 2.4 million in the UK working in creative industries.<sup>14</sup>

## A creative flair

UK advertising agencies are especially known for their creative flair. They win more advertising awards at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity per capita than any other country. In 2024, UK companies took home 82 Cannes Lions awards from the festival, including four Grands Prix: the second highest number after the USA.<sup>15</sup>

## Famous games and films

Developers in the UK have created some of the most internationally acclaimed games such as Red Dead Redemption 2, Tomb Raider and the Grand Theft Auto series. At the same time, last year, film and television production generated billions to the UK economy, with combined production spend reaching £4.23 billion.<sup>16</sup>

## Largest market in Europe

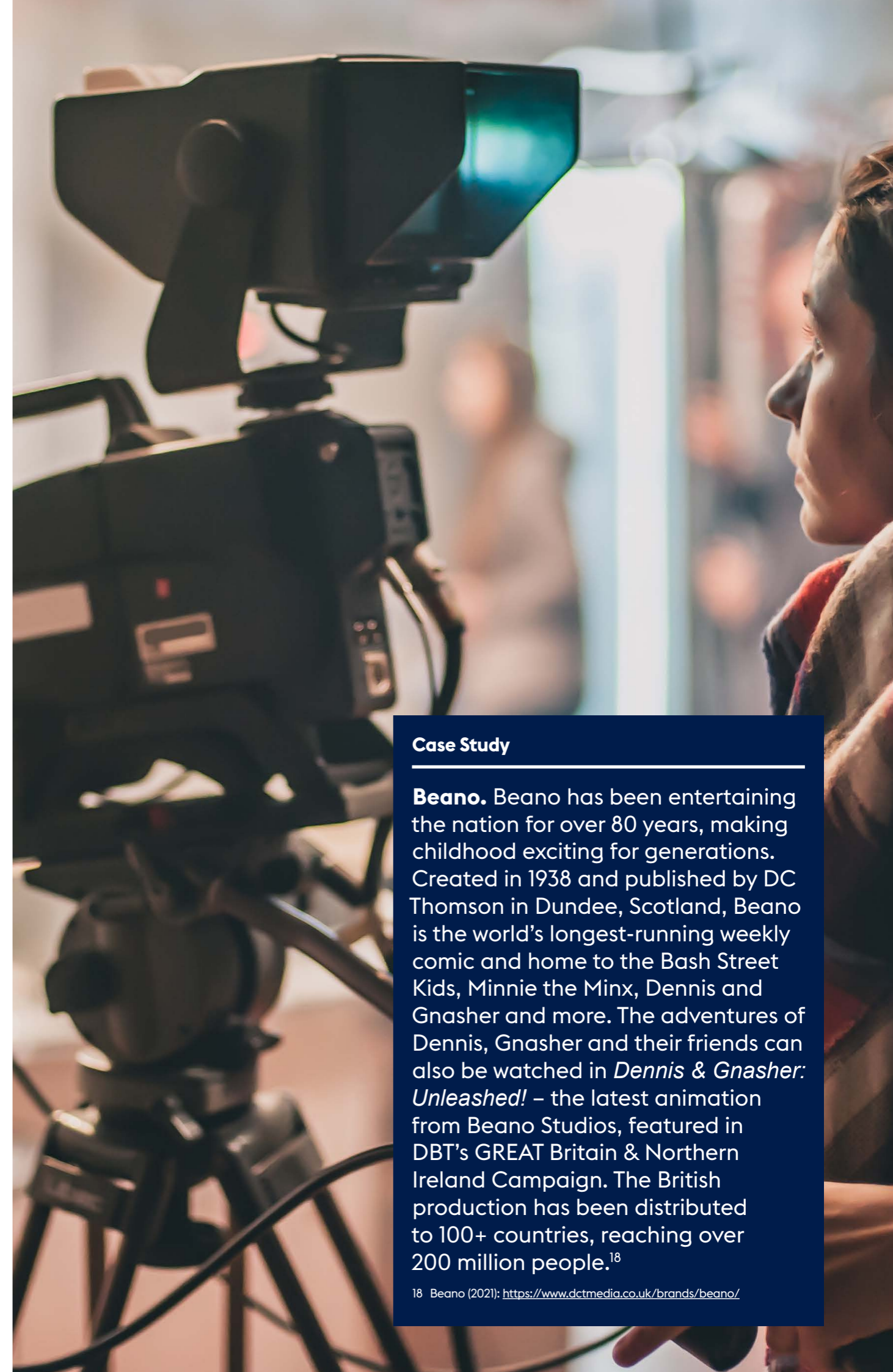
The UK has some of the most sophisticated digital markets in the world, with a population of businesses and consumers that are very comfortable with eCommerce. At \$142 billion in 2023, the UK also boasts the largest advanced eCommerce market in Europe.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/economic-estimates-employment-and-aps-earnings-in-dcms-sectors-january-2023-to-december-2023/economic-estimates-employment-in-the-dcms-sectors-january-2023-to-december-2023>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.statista.com/statistics/309720/awards-cannes-festival-creativity-country/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.bfi.org.uk/news/official-bfi-2023-statistics>

<sup>17</sup> <https://ecommercedb.com/markets/gb/all>



## Case Study

**Beano.** Beano has been entertaining the nation for over 80 years, making childhood exciting for generations. Created in 1938 and published by DC Thomson in Dundee, Scotland, Beano is the world's longest-running weekly comic and home to the Bash Street Kids, Minnie the Minx, Dennis and Gnasher and more. The adventures of Dennis, Gnasher and their friends can also be watched in *Dennis & Gnasher: Unleashed!* – the latest animation from Beano Studios, featured in DBT's GREAT Britain & Northern Ireland Campaign. The British production has been distributed to 100+ countries, reaching over 200 million people.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Beano (2021): <https://www.dctmedia.co.uk/brands/beano/>



# UK consumer goods attracting global audiences

From fast cars to fashion, the UK has long been renowned for consumer products and boasts truly iconic global brands in the fashion and retail sector. Companies like Burberry combine heritage in manufacturing in the UK, innovation in design and the best possible levels of performance.

Great care is taken in the production of every product. British companies can draw on expertise in skilled, traditional craftsmanship to ensure that every item is made to the highest standard.

## Case study

**British Corner Shop** was founded in 1999, connecting retail customers abroad with a taste of the UK. This was followed by the launch of B2B Wholesale in 2007, connecting customers of all sizes with the quality brands for which Britain is renowned. British Corner Shop is now an award-winning company (including the Queen's Award and Sunday Times SME Export Track Top 100).





# UK EdTech is priming tomorrow's talent

As the home of globally recognised universities, including three in the top 10 world-wide<sup>19</sup>, the UK boasts world-class education opportunities and attracts over 700,000 international students each year.<sup>20</sup>

As modern technology becomes more ingrained into our everyday lives, so do opportunities to grow how we learn. UK EdTech businesses are at the forefront of education innovation – from virtual reality in classrooms, to software that better manages student wellbeing. UK EdTech is set to exponentially improve the accessibility and quality of education for people around the world, regardless of where they come from.

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/press-releases/times-higher-education-world-university-rankings-2025-released>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/universities-uk-international/insights-and-publications/uuki-publications/international-facts-and-figures-2023>

## Texthelp

Based in Antrim in Northern Ireland, Texthelp is an EdTech company that has created an award-winning range of innovative software solutions that help more than 30 million educators and students improve literacy, maths and assessment.<sup>21</sup> The company was a winner of the Department for Education's EdTech Innovation Fund and formed part of a trade mission to the UAE, which subsequently led to commercial initiatives with many international schools, private schools and universities in the Gulf Cooperation Council, including the GEMS group of schools and Zayed University.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Texthelp (2021) <https://www.texthelp.com/about/>

<sup>22</sup> Gov UK (2021): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-education-strategy-2021-update/international-education-strategy-2021-update-supporting-recovery-driving-growth>





# UK fintech puts the consumer in control

Over the past ten years, the UK has grown to be an undisputed global fintech hub. With total UK fintech investment hit £5.5 billion in the first half of 2024, according to KPMG.<sup>23</sup> UK fintech has global reach enabled by its foundations in the UK.

From challenger banks like Monzo or Revolut, to blockchain services, UK fintech excels. This is thanks to our regulatory environment that supports innovation while protecting consumers, driven by our powerhouse financial services industry. Fintech helps to improve transparency and efficiency within financial services, putting you and other consumers in control. With over 3,200 fintech companies in the UK<sup>24</sup>, there are new ways every day to revolutionise your financial management with UK companies.

<sup>23</sup> <https://kpmg.com/uk/en/home/media/press-releases/2024/08/uk-fintech-investment.html>/ Converted from \$7.3 billion using the Bank of England average spot exchange rate.

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.theglobalcity.uk/fintech>

## Case Study

**Starling Bank.** Starling Bank is a prime example of an innovative UK financial services company that has disrupted the financial services market. Founded in 2014, today it is one of the UK's biggest neobanks – branchless banks challenging the norms of conventional banking systems. The bank has looked to differentiate from challenger-bank rivals with a focus on small business banking. Of its 3 million accounts, with 460,000 small business accounts.<sup>25</sup> Its valuation recently topped £1 billion for the first time.<sup>26</sup> Investors include US powerhouses Goldman Sachs<sup>27</sup> and Fidelity, and the Qatar Investment Authority.<sup>28</sup> It now plans to expand into Europe.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Starling (2021); <https://www.starlingbank.com/news/starling-passes-accounts-milestone/>

<sup>26</sup> Starling Bank (2021); <https://www.starlingbank.com/news/starling-announces-272m-funding-round-march-2021/>

<sup>27</sup> Starling Bank (2021); <https://www.starlingbank.com/news/goldman-sachs-invests-50m-in-starling-bank>

<sup>28</sup> Starling Bank (2021); <https://www.starlingbank.com/news/starling-announces-272m-funding-round-march-2021/>

<sup>29</sup> Starling Bank (2021); <https://www.starlingbank.com/news/starling-to-make-baas-available-in-europe/>





# UK renewables are innovating for tomorrow

Now more than ever, the world is looking for green solutions to everyday challenges. As governments worldwide join the race to decarbonise, the UK is leading the charge. With £12 billion of government investment announced in 2020 to scale up world-class green infrastructure.<sup>30</sup> According to Carbon Brief Analysis, last year UK emissions fell to lowest level since 1879, following a further 5.4% reduction in 2023.<sup>31</sup> Thanks to our outstanding academic and industry leaders working together to design new solutions to combat climate change, the UK is constantly creating new ways to embrace the green revolution.

## Energising renewables

Home to the world's first ever floating offshore windfarms, the UK is a world leader in using wind to power tomorrow. From turbine creation to installation, the UK holds a hub of wind power expertise that countries around the world are capitalising on.

<sup>30</sup> Gov UK (2020): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution>  
<sup>31</sup> <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-uk-emissions-in-2023-fell-to-lowest-level-since-1879/>

## Driving the green initiative

The future of the automotive industry has continually captured the imagination of world-leading scientists and innovators. UK businesses are right there with them, building the zero-emission vehicles of the future. The transport sector currently accounts for over a quarter of total energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.<sup>32</sup> UK hydrogen generators and electric vehicles demonstrate UK capabilities to combat carbon emissions and build an advantage, as renewable energy takes centre stage.

## Building green

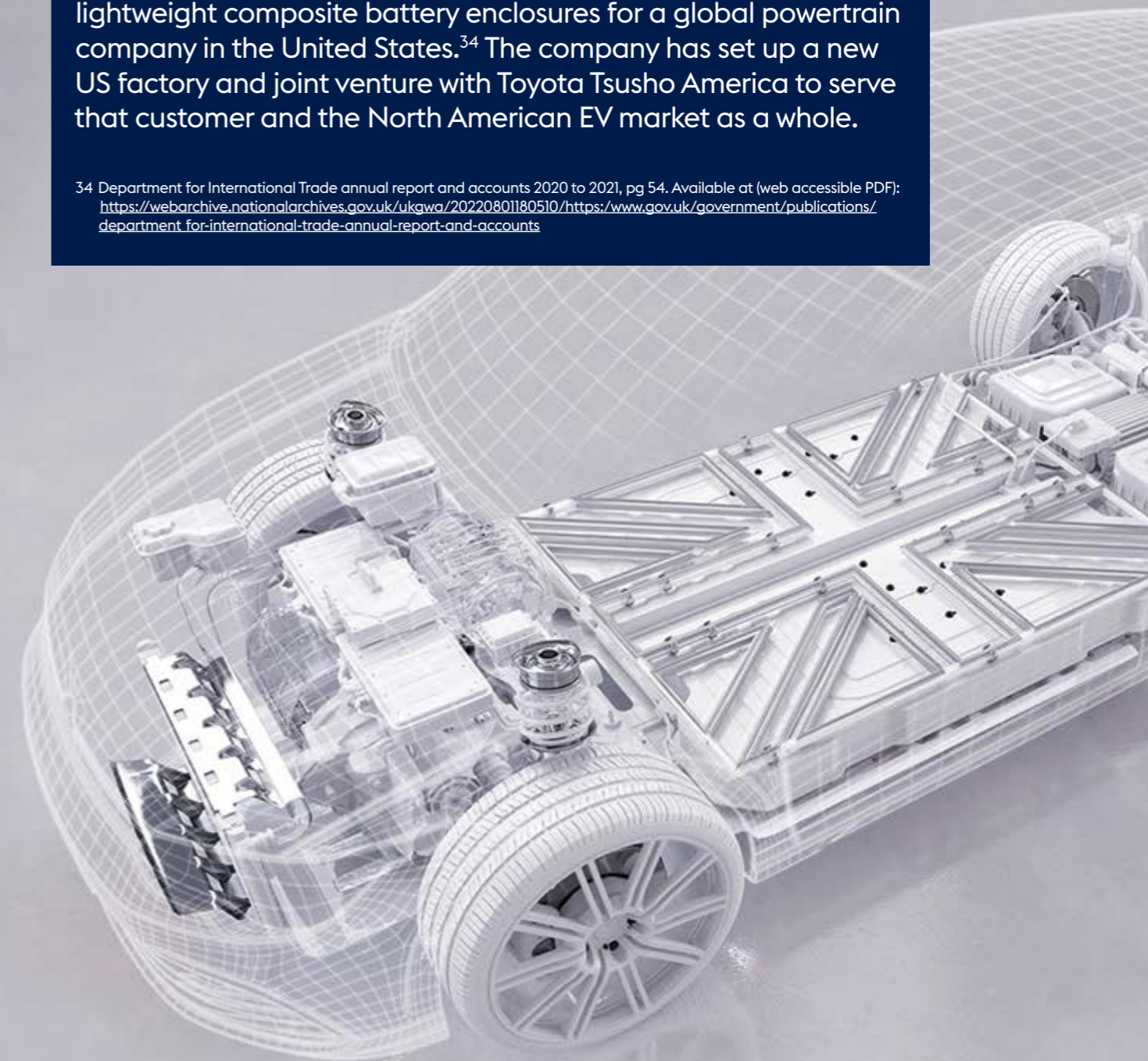
Through our buildings and infrastructure, UK businesses are designing new ways to integrate clean growth into our everyday lives. We are leaders in the long-term planning, design, and construction of green infrastructure. Last year, we launched a £48 million programme to support the development of sustainable infrastructure in lower income countries, drawing on expertise from across the UK.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/provisional-uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics-2023>  
<sup>33</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/48m-boost-to-improve-infrastructure-in-lower-income-countries>

## Case Study

**TRB.** As electrification technology grows across cross-cutting sectors – automotive, aviation, rail – TRB is focused on providing lightweight, durable and innovative components including battery enclosures and other structural parts. From decades of experience designing and manufacturing lightweight components in aluminium, TRB has developed a unique process to manufacture composite parts at a similar cost and scale. The automated line combines proprietary quick curing resins and in-house produced prepreg materials with robotic production to generate high-spec, ready-to-ship composite parts in minutes – ideally suited to the high volume production requirements for EVs. TRB won a £19 million export deal to design and manufacture lightweight composite battery enclosures for a global powertrain company in the United States.<sup>34</sup> The company has set up a new US factory and joint venture with Toyota Tsusho America to serve that customer and the North American EV market as a whole.

<sup>34</sup> Department for International Trade annual report and accounts 2020 to 2021, pg 54. Available at (web accessible PDF): <https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20220801180510/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-international-trade-annual-report-and-accounts>





# With you for the long run

In 2022, more multinational businesses choose Britain for subsidiaries than anywhere else outside of the US.<sup>35</sup>

Home of leading institutions such as the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the UK is entirely dedicated to delivering to the highest degree. This frame of mind is instilled throughout UK industry; we are home to the second most Nobel laureates globally.<sup>36</sup>

Our regulation and dedication to excellence means that investing in British products and services guarantees not only short-term gains, but also long-term value.

“

For our clients, ‘British’ means quality, know-how, heritage and tradition. By trusting our British brands, they know they are making the best choice. We trust British brands because we know that we will not deceive our clients.”

Rodrigo Menéndez, CEO, Isolée, Spain

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.investmentmonitor.ai/features/where-do-the-worlds-top-companies-have-subsidiaries/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/nobel-prizes-by-country>



## Effective regulation

The UK has been a leader in regulatory policy among OECD for years, with well-established regulatory disciplines and cross-government policies providing incentives for a range of regulators to pursue common objectives and various actors supporting and overseeing regulatory policy.

### Too much regulation? On the contrary

Our regulation succeeds because we collaborate with UK industries. We put the needs of business first, by supporting and coordinating with companies as they develop products and services.

In 2023, it was announced that new laws will be introduced to ensure that UK regulations reflect the needs of a modern digital economy. The UK's Plan for Digital Regulation sets out a new, ground-breaking approach to govern tech with a proportionate and agile regulatory approach, removing unnecessary burdens and providing clarity and confidence to businesses and consumers.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-regulation-driving-growth-and-unlocking-innovation/digital-regulation-driving-growth-and-unlocking-innovation>

## Helping financial services comply

The UK's Financial Conduct Authority has launched the Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN), which supports fintech firms in complying with regulation and piloting innovative products across multiple jurisdictions. Last year, GFIN had over 70 organisations committed to supporting financial innovation in the interests of consumers.<sup>38</sup>

### Purchase with confidence

Effective regulation across all sectors means you can be sure of UK suppliers and partners, both in terms of governance and business protection. Consumers are fully protected, too. In financial services, for example, our Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) regulates nearly 50,000 businesses to safeguard consumers and drive down costs. In 2023/24 the FCA secured redress worth up to £230 million for investors through its enforcement action, confiscations and penalties on firms and individuals.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.fca.org.uk/firms/innovation/global-financial-innovation-network>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.fca.org.uk/publications/annual-reports/annual-report-2023-2024>

## Negotiate fairly – our legal system

UK law firms and chambers will help you with all kinds of cross-border transactions – from supplier contracts to mergers and acquisitions and dispute resolution.

You'll gain from the highest levels of clarity and integrity. English law is used as the blueprint for governments worldwide, with over a quarter of all legal systems based on the UK.





# It's time to trade with us

There has never been a better time to trade with the UK. With a global outlook and outstanding infrastructure, you can access every corner of Britain's diverse trading nation – regardless of where you are in the world.



# World-class infrastructure

You'll receive high-quality, innovative products from your supplier quickly and cost-effectively via our advanced transport infrastructure. Infrastructure investment in strategic locations ensures capacity keeps pace with demand.

## Air

Heathrow airport in London ranks third in Europe for direct connectivity, and first in Europe for connectivity with North America and Asia-Pacific. With a network of additional international airports across the UK, at least one will therefore be in easy, convenient reach for your supplier.<sup>40</sup>

## Sea

The UK port industry is the second largest in Europe, handling almost 500 million tonnes of freight each year, as well as over 60 million international and domestic passenger journeys.<sup>41</sup>

In the **south of England**, the equivalent of four million containers moves through the Port of Felixstowe every year.<sup>42</sup>

**Scotland** currently have two Green Freeports - Inverness and Cromarty Green Freeport and Forth Green Freeport - which are creating new green jobs and contributing to the transition to net-zero.<sup>43</sup>

The new UK Freeport model is revolutionising access to the UK, creating national hubs where businesses can benefit from streamlined processes and a package of tax relief benefits. The Tees Valley is home to the largest chemical complex in the UK, and the second largest in Europe.<sup>44</sup>

## Creating global relationships

As an independent trading nation, the UK is building better and closer relationships globally. Last financial year alone, we fully resolved 135 barriers to trade, and we are currently negotiating progressive trade deals that remove digital barriers and facilitate the free flow of data and ideas.<sup>45</sup> Our trade and investment hubs, situated across the UK's regions, connect our new trading partners with businesses in every corner of the UK. This helps to forge new business partnerships, and ultimately, helps you find the best product or services for your needs.

<sup>45</sup> [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/market-access-barrier-statistics-2023-to-2024/market-access-barrier-statistics-financial-year-2023-to-2024#resolved-market-access-barriers-headline-statistics](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/market-access-barrier-statistics-2023-to-2024/market-access-barrier-statistics-financial-year-2023-to-2024#resolved-market-access-barriers-headline-statistics)

<sup>40</sup> AIRPORT INDUSTRY CONNECTIVITY REPORT 2024, <https://connectivity.aci-europe.org/>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.britishports.org.uk/about-us/the-uk-ports-industry/>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.portoffelixstowe.co.uk/about/connectivity/>

<sup>43</sup> <https://revenue.scot/taxes/land-buildings-transaction-tax/lbtt-legislation-guidance/lbtt3001-exemptions-reliefs/lbtt3010-tax-reliefs/lbtt3049-green-freeports>

<sup>44</sup> <https://idric.org/stakeholders/teeside-industrial-cluster/>



# What to do next

## Get in touch

Contact the Department for Business and Trade in your country.

We're at 177 locations in 108 countries around the world.

We can provide specific advice and alert you about events. DBT can also help connect you to UK suppliers – many may already be present where you are.

## Financing

Benefit from flexible, competitive financing from UK Export Finance (UKEF).

## Follow us

Connect via social media on [LinkedIn](#) for the latest insights, industry news, events and details of UK Government support.







**Department for Business and Trade**

The UK's Department for Business and Trade is an economic growth department. We ensure fair, competitive markets at home, secure access to new markets abroad and support businesses to invest, export and grow. Our priorities are the Industrial Strategy, Make Work Pay, the Trade Strategy and the Plan for Small Business.

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