

# Bird & Bird

## Satellite Bulletin

August 2015

### *The UK - Achieving the target of £40 billion?*

*A key goal of the recent UK Space Innovation and Growth Strategy (IGS) is to “make the UK the best place to start and develop space businesses”.*

This is a key objective in order to achieve the target of a UK space industry valued at £40 billion by 2030. A recent Case for Space 2015 report shows that the UK space industry is currently worth £11.8 billion.

The UK space industry has been acknowledged as one of the “UK’s Eight Great Technologies”. However, it is not clear what this statement means in practical terms in relation to assistance and support available for players in the UK industry or companies considering growth and development in the UK.

I am often asked about the practical help available, incentives and sources of advice for companies intending to establish in the UK or seeking to grow and develop here. This Bulletin provides a brief summary of, and links to, some of these sources.

#### **UK Trade & Investment (UKTI)**

The [UKTI](#) works with UK based companies to assist them in international markets through exports and supports overseas companies set up or expand in the UK.

#### **Satellite Applications Catapult - Space Business Portal**

The Catapult has high value facilities and expertise available to support the growth of satellite businesses, along with providing business support and connections. A summary of support and contacts can be found at the [Space Business Portal](#).

#### **Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN)**

The [KTN](#) provides advice on national and European funding opportunities and advice on bids.

#### **Innovate UK**

[Innovate UK](#) can provide funding and support to help early stage innovative businesses develop new products and services.

#### **Satellite Finance Network (SFN)**

The [SFN](#) is useful to join if you wish to participate in networking opportunities, regulatory training, pitch training and elevator pitches.

#### **UK Space Agency (UKSA)**

Once a company is resident in the UK there are various funding opportunities that are available from the [UKSA](#) such as through the Space for Smarter Government Project ([SSGP](#)) and the International Partnership Space Programme (IPSP).

#### **Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Network**

[LEPs](#) are local business led partnerships between local authorities and business and undertake activities to encourage economic growth. The 39 LEPs across England can support companies looking to set up in their regions. There is also equivalent support in [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#).

If you are interested in receiving more information on this topic or our satellite practice group please contact:

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*Bird & Bird - the commercial, corporate, finance, litigation, IP and regulatory specialists for the space industry.*

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## Bird & Bird's Satellite Group

Bird & Bird's satellite group is unique: with the reputation of its key individuals; with its footprint of expertise; and through the group's genuine interest and knowledge of the sector over years working in-house, at regulators, in international institutions (EC, ESA, ITU, UN) and in private practice. We assist clients in areas including: regulatory advice; industry specific commercial contacts; competition; corporate; finance; dispute resolution; employment; and insurance.

Our international team comprises of expert lawyers across Europe, the Middle East and Asia offering clients a one-stop-shop at which to address the issues they face. We also have strong experience in Africa. It is part of Bird & Bird's world leading communications group, which also offers advice in related sectors such as: energy and utilities; life sciences; transport and maritime; aerospace, defence and security; aviation; financial services; and healthcare. Bird & Bird also benefit from a team focussed on SMEs and the needs of start-ups.

## Recognised in the market



Top ranked in a client satisfaction survey (Nisus Consulting)



Best Firm for Client Service at the FT Innovative Lawyers Awards for our Virtual General Counsel initiative. Legal Innovator of the Year - Joanne Wheeler



A founding member of the Satellite Finance Network

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