

## Abstract: Integrated International Services for Industry

The *Industrial Control Centre* at the University of Strathclyde was established over two decades ago to help transfer the technology of advanced systems engineering into industry. The Centre was established as a research grouping but it was soon found that other industrial activities were necessary to service the large interdisciplinary research programme. A university company was established *Industrial Systems and Control Limited* and a very successful *Advanced Control Technology Club* which in the United States is called the ACT-USA Consortium. The ACT focussed on a range of dissemination, training and awareness programmes which complimented the research and consultancy services.

The features of the ACT programme included:

1. Provision of engineering staff with cross disciplinary skills.
2. Very close interaction with industry via:
  - \* Wide range of technology transfer and training services
  - \* Consultancy and problem solving support.
  - \* Outputs by way of Case studies, Reports and Software.
3. International dimension with support from both national and international partners.

The use of a cluster of activities provides considerable benefits since companies can receive the full spectrum of support from strategic research to short term practical help. However, such an arrangement needs very specialist and professional management with well defined lines of responsibility. This is particularly true for projects which have a multidisciplinary and large scale nature.

Examples will be presented of the types of applications and the research projects on which the ACT has built it's success.

