



Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers - SIMposium

3 April 2023

'Economically Competitive Fusion Energy'

The Scientific Instrument Makers hold an annual 'SIMposium', which is normally an internal event, open to its members and other affiliated organisations.

The 2023 'SIMposium' is open to all members of the Livery and wider interested Industries and concentrates on the financial and technical challenges of producing economically competitive fusion energy.

It matches well the Lord Mayor's theme of "[Financing the Future](#)", which was promulgated by the Rt Hon Lord Mayor, [Alderman Nicholas Lyons](#), in his Address to the Livery.

Prospectus

Power from nuclear fusion has begun to attract the attention of investors across the world. While all nuclear-generated electricity to date has been based on fission or the "splitting of the atom", there is now considerable and revived interest in an alternative way of generating nuclear-based electricity, from nuclear fusion, which involves, put simply, squashing atoms together.

The aim of a fusion reactor is to generate extreme conditions like those found at the centre of the Sun, which will cause hydrogen atoms continually to combine to make helium, and release huge amounts of energy in the process, with little radioactive waste. While there has been progress in moving towards this goal, continuous energy production has still not been achieved, in spite of the significant research funding provided by many countries.

But new fusion enterprises are beginning to spring up, and they are attracting billions of pounds in private investment. Does this intriguing new phenomenon mean that we are closer than was commonly thought to generating economically competitive fusion energy? The SIMposium has been organised in order to test this proposition, and to showcase the research and financial strategies being employed to overcome the scientific and engineering obstacles that lie along the path towards commercial viability

To book your place or explore the programme in detail, please use this link - [Eventbrite booking Link](#).

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Clerk@wcsim.co.uk

Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers

SIMposium, 3 April 2023

Economically competitive fusion energy

Programme

- 9.30** **Arrival - coffee and biscuits**
- 10.00** **Court Room, Leadership Session 1.**
10.00 Introduction: Professor Philip Thomas, Master of the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers
10.10 The global fusion landscape, Tom Davis (Oxford Sigma)
10.35 Questions
- 10.40 Introduction to fusion - UKAEA perspective, Tim Bestwick, Chief Technology Officer & Director Strategy, Communications and Business Development at UK Atomic Energy Authority
11.05 Questions
- 11.10** **Coffee**
- 11.30** **Court Room, Leadership Session 2**
 Chaired by Charles Holroyd, Deputy Master, Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers
 Private sector funding and valuation: an International Perspective, Douglas Hanson-Luke (Executive Chairman, Future Planet Capital)
11.25 Questions
- 12.00 Tokamak Energy – accelerating the development of commercial fusion, David Kingham (Tokamak Energy)
11.55 Questions
- 12.30 Open challenges for measurement in fusion, Speakers from UKAEA
 Dr Lyn McWilliams, R&D Engineer at H3AT (Tritium Advanced Technologies) Facility
 Mr Adomas Lukenska, Breeder Blanket Technology
12.55 Questions
- 13.00** **Lunch**
- 14.00** **River Room, Scholarship Session.**

14.00 Opening of poster session, Prof. Tom Scott (Director of SW Nuclear Hub, University of Bristol)
14.15 12 Posters, primarily from younger researchers in industry and university

16.00 Tea available

16.30 Close

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Please note my core working days are Tuesday and Thursday, but this may occasionally vary. Please be patient if I don't reply immediately. Many thanks.