



PRESS RELEASE

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UK Deputy Prime Minister and Business Secretary visit Ricardo

Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, and Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, visited the Ricardo Shoreham Technical Centre today to see some of the latest low carbon vehicle technology work being carried out by the company

Today's visit was arranged to coincide with the autumn party conference of the Liberal Democrats which is taking place locally in Brighton. "We were extremely pleased to be able to welcome two such prominent government ministers to Ricardo and to show them some of the exciting advanced low carbon research, development and product innovation projects that we are carrying out here," said Ricardo UK managing director Martin Fausset. "Ricardo is a leading source of innovation and technology for the world's automotive and related industries, strongly export-focused with over half of our business derived from overseas customers. The company remains a significant employer in the Shoreham area where we have been active for nearly a century. We continue work to provide the technology and engineering capabilities that will help build a more sustainable global future for low carbon transport, and we are pleased to be able to discuss our vision with leading politicians such as Nick Clegg and Vince Cable."

During the visit, the ministers were shown some of the latest Ricardo electric, hybrid and advanced automotive powertrain concepts under development, as well as seeing some of work of the company in sectors ranging from renewable energy and power generation, to defence vehicles such as the British army's new Foxhound fleet which is being built by Ricardo at Shoreham. The visitors also toured the new high performance assembly facility where the engine of the McLaren MP4-12C sports car is produced – the world's greenest supercar power unit, the design of which was the result of a highly successful collaboration with Ricardo. Throughout the visit, the ministers were able to meet a number of



the most recently recruited engineering graduates and newly qualified apprentices employed by Ricardo, underscoring the company's commitment to on-going engineering skills development.

“It was fantastic to visit Ricardo”, commented Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP. “I was blown away by the enthusiasm and dedication of everyone there. The people I met are a real credit to not only the company but also to British manufacturing. Ricardo is a great example of British innovation, combining some of the world's best expertise with a century of strong British history. Both Vince and I were incredibly impressed with the quality of what Ricardo is producing, but also with everyone working with such dedication and enthusiasm. It really is an inspiration for business.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo plc is a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy. With almost a century of delivering value, we employ over 1900 professional engineers, consultants and staff. Our people are committed to providing outstanding value through quality engineering solutions focused on high efficiency, low emission, class-leading product innovation and robust strategic implementation. Our client list includes the world's major transportation original equipment manufacturers, supply chain organizations, energy companies, financial institutions & governments. Guided by our corporate values of respect, integrity, creativity & innovation and passion, we enable our customers to achieve sustainable growth and commercial success. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

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