

# BUSINESS Post Daily

## New service will help to secure 100 jobs for city

By Gemma Toulson

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MORE than 100 new jobs are to be created by a Nottingham firm whose clients include Harrods, the O2 Arena and the Olympic Stadium.

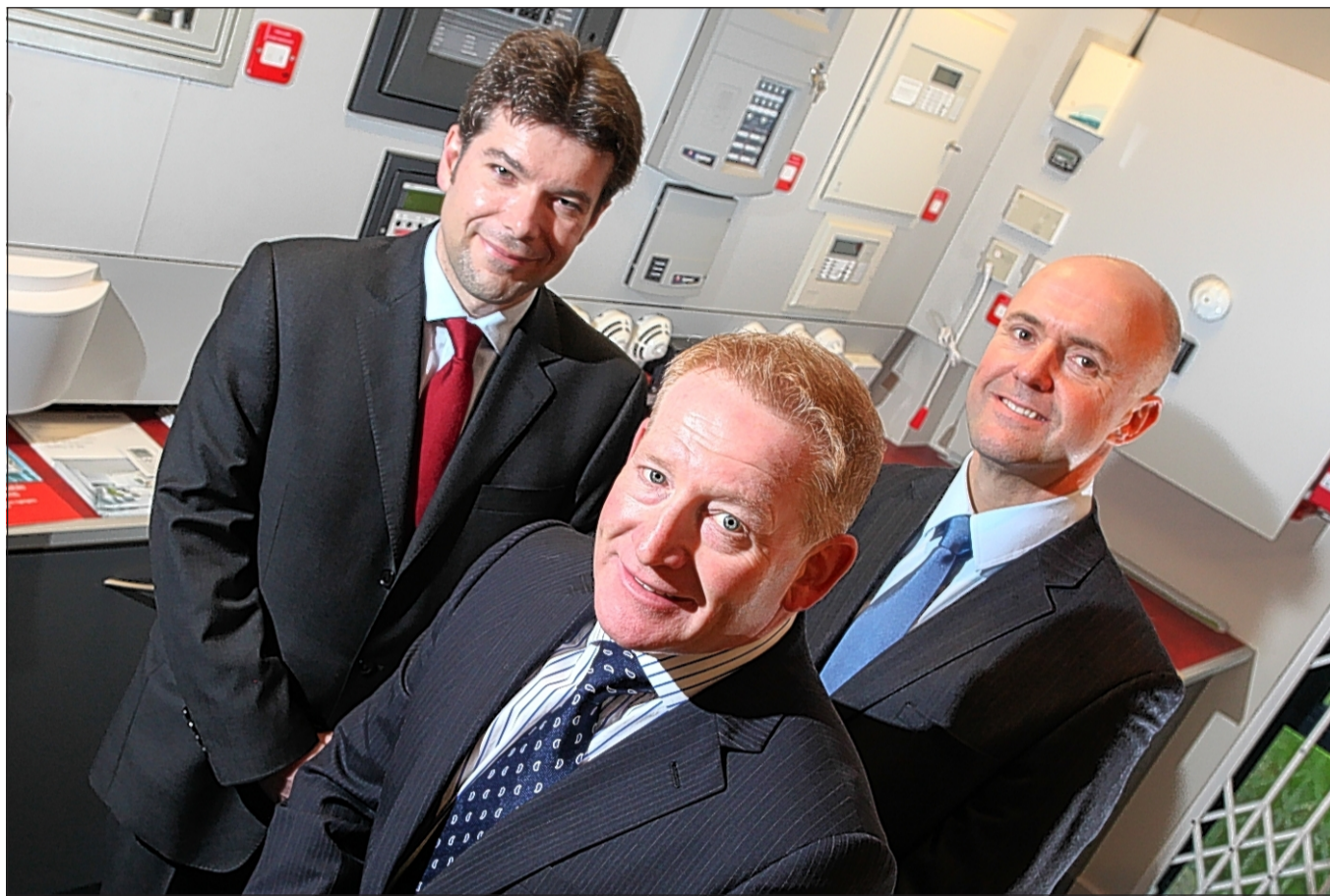
Global Fire Systems designs, supplies, installs and maintains fire detection systems, voice evacuation alarms, disability alarms, fire telephones, intruder alarms, CCTV, access control and fire suppression systems.

It has received a £390,000 grant from the Nottingham Technology Grant Fund (N'Tech) to develop a new service that will

monitor all of a building's fire and security systems – a move that will create the 100 new jobs in Nottingham.

It is also set to receive support from Nottingham City Council to help recruit and train ten apprentices.

Managing director Ian Grantham, who co-founded the business with Stuart Beeley, said: "We find Nottingham a perfect place to have a national business, being centrally located in the UK, with cost-effective quality office accommodation, links to the University of Nottingham, which means we're able to recruit talented graduates, and other key



**Growth:** From left, city council representative Mike Durban, MD Ian Grantham and operations director Stuart Beeley.

supply chain partners.

"In addition, the road, rail and airport networks are improving and with the high-speed rail link and tram net-

work, the city should prosper."

Established in 1999, Global Fire Systems is headquartered at NG2 Business Park in Nottingham. It employs 50 people at its three offices in Nottingham, with a further 100 field engineers based across the country and at its office in Canary Wharf, London.

The company has been highlighted by the London Stock Exchange Group as one of the 1,000 Companies to Inspire Britain, and is ranked 32nd in the Fastest Top 200 growing companies in the East Midlands by the Confederation of British Industry.

The company's national client base includes Harrods, the O2 Arena, Olympic Stadium, the Savoy, the Shard, Royal Household Residences and services within all UK Airports.

Internationally, it has delivered specialist projects in the Ascension Island, Shetland Islands, Abu Dhabi, the Olympic Games in Beijing and the Commonwealth Games in Delhi.

It also works with hospitals, banks, shopping centres,

high-rise office blocks, hotels, sporting stadiums and universities on contracts worth between £5,000 and £3 million.

N'Tech grants are geared towards the growing life science, digital content and clean technology sectors.

The programme is focused on small and medium-sized enterprises within the greater Nottingham area.

grants of £20,000 to £1million per successful company to support growth and expansion.

To date, the fund has had 43 successful applications across the digital content, life sciences and clean technology sectors and awarded grants to the value of £4.9 million, with 874 jobs created or safeguarded. N'Tech closes to applications on September 30.

Councillor Nick McDonald, portfolio holder for jobs and growth on the city council, said: "We are very pleased to be able to further support the expansion and development of Global Fire Systems."

"It is a great local success story and it's great news that the company will be taking on new staff, including ten apprentices."

"Ensuring that local people benefit from the upturn in business that Nottingham is seeing is a major priority."

"The growth of innovative local companies like this has far-reaching benefits for the city and we wish them every success in their new and expanded ventures."

“It is a great local success story and it's great news that the company will be taking on new staff

Nick McDonald

The grants are funded solely through the Government's Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

Nottingham City Council secured RGF money from the Government for grants to help fast-track the development of businesses based in the city. The funding can provide

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## Wheel way to the workplace

BUSINESSES are being urged to sign up for a competition which encourages employees to get active by walking and cycling to work.

The Big Wheel's Workplace Challenge was officially launched on April 7 and participating workplaces have already collectively clocked up 4,173 "green miles".

The challenge runs until June 7 and is still open to businesses to enter.

The Big Wheel, which provides sustainable transport information for Greater Nottingham, and Sustrans, a charity working to promote greener travel, is running the campaign. Its aim is to encourage

people to change their travel habits to help improve their health, improve air quality and reduce congestion.

To enter the challenge, employees need to work in the Nottingham city area or within a 40-mile commute of Nottingham. The winners will clock up the most miles walked, cycled or run.

Arkwright Meadows Community (AMC) Gardens, where people participate in community activities in The Meadows, won last year's small business category for businesses with two to ten employees.

Laura Reed, of AMC Gardens, said: "Last year's challenge was really fun and very

motivating. Winning was an added bonus – gaining us great publicity.

"The prize bike has proved very useful, as we use it for all sorts of errands from the gardens – it has carried freshly-grown herbs and vegetables."

This year prizes will be awarded for each of the top small, medium and large-sized businesses and also the best individual efforts.

Organisations and individual that come top in each of the main categories will also be recognised by wider advertising on Nottingham's trams.

To register, visit [www.thebigwheel.org.uk/workplacechallenge](http://www.thebigwheel.org.uk/workplacechallenge).