

Annual Report 2006-2007



What are the key objectives of the SOA?

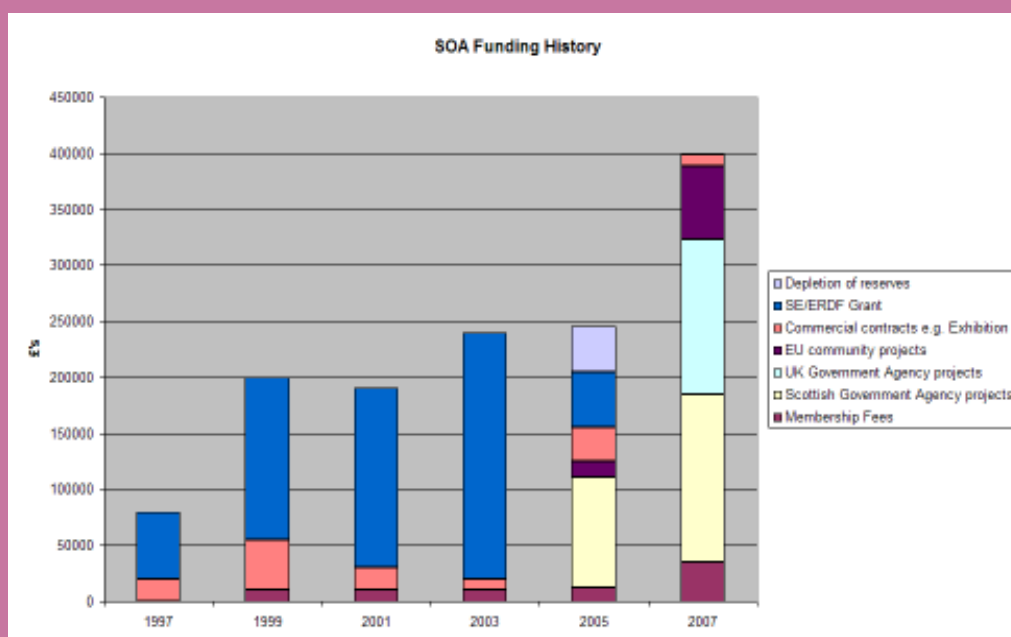
- To actively **promote** the interests of the Optoelectronics industry and members through local, national and international representation
- To provide **strategic guidance** to government and other public sector bodies on industry priorities and allocation of funds
- To **support the growth** of the Optoelectronics industry in Scotland
- To maintain the **viability** and **vibrancy** of the SOA

How does the SOA meet these objectives?

- **Promotion** - SOA has formed links with a wide range of Government Agencies, other industry associations throughout the world and other organisations providing support to the sector and our member companies.
- **Guidance** – SOA is engaged in Market Analysis and Roadmapping, national and European strategy development and information exchange with global organisations.
- **Support** – SOA has vigorously supported and provided assistance in commercialisation of R&D through local, national and European mechanisms.
- **Vibrancy** – SOA is fully engaged with the local Optoelectronics community through meetings and site visits in order to identify industry priorities.

SOA Funding History

funding of SOA has changed since its inception, from a predominantly grant assisted organisation with no membership funding, to one which is project driven - see chart below. The future shape of the SOA will depend on discussion of member requirements.



Promotion

Over the past year, SOA has participated in a wide range of industry events and exhibitions and contributed to media activities

Photon06, Manchester, September 2006

SOA organised the Industrial Technology Programme and Exhibition at this event UK national event. There were 70 delegates to the ITP and 43 exhibitors. A conference attracting 400 delegates ran in parallel with the SOA organised events.

ECOC, Cannes, September 2006

Following on from ECOC 2005 in Glasgow, there was a Scottish stand at this event. Six Scottish organisations took space.

Photonex, Stoneleigh, October 2006

SOA organised the Photonics KTN/UKCPO Stand at this event. In addition, 10 Scottish organisations exhibited.

Photonics West 2007, San Jose, January 2007

The absence of a Scottish Pavilion at the 2006 event which was widely noticed, there was again a Scottish Pavilion at Photonics West. Six Scottish companies took space on the stand and a further six were on their own or representative's stands.

Laser 2007, Munich, June 2007

SOA took a stand at Laser 2007 on behalf of the ACCORD programme. Various represented were 15 Scottish companies and in addition a number of academic delegates visited the conference.



Conference Presentations

Throughout the year, SOA has presented papers at key international Optoelectronics conferences.

Economic Development for Physicists from Developing Countries, Trieste, November 2006

A presentation was given to this week long event to 40 participants on the approach adopted for Optoelectronics in Scotland.

OIDA Annual Forum, Washington, December 2006

A presentation on European Funding Mechanisms was given to over 100 US Optoelectronics organisations CEO/CTOs.

Electronic Displays Conference, Nuremberg, February 2007

A presentation was given to approximately 200 display technologists on the SOA led ADRIA Roadmaps.

EU Workshop for participants in the call for Photonics Component Assessment. - FP7 Workshop on Photonic Component Assessment, Brussels, March 2007

SOA presented Scottish capability represented by Photonix SMC and OptoCap.

12th Annual meeting of the International Optoelectronics Associations, Munich, June 2007

10 Optoelectronics associations from Japan, USA, Taiwan, South Korea, Germany, Europe, Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Scotland met to exchange information on their activities, markets, roadmaps, trends and future growth topics.

Missions

Inward mission from the Korean Technology Forum (KOTEF), June 2007

SOA participated in this inward mission, which included representatives from Samsung and LG. SOA helped introduce two member companies into the mission.

Guidance

Over the past year, SOA has participated in developing strategies and roadmaps for the industry.

Strategy Development

Photonics 21 (European Photonics Strategy)

SOA participated in the workshop and subsequent correspondence, which led to the creation of the Photonics Strategic Research Agenda. Subsequently SOA led a mission supported by Scottish Enterprise and SUPA to the December 2006 Photonics 21 meeting, which initiated work towards the 2009 Call in Photonics.

SOA has subsequently attended the WG4 Lighting and Displays workshop, which is drafting in detail the priorities for research in the 2009 call and disseminated material from other WG's for comment.

UK Photonics Strategy

Following the workshop held by SOA in 2006 to help develop the Strategy the PKTN is now formed and will be producing roadmaps which will help to update the strategy.

Roadmaps

ADRIA - Advanced Display Research Integration Action

ADRIA was set up in October 2004 with a grant from the EU Commission FP6 programme. It consists of a consortium led by the German DFF (Flat Panel Display Forum) which is part of the VDMA. The other partners are:

- SOA
- SEMI, Europe
- Le Club Visu, a French legal entity formed by SID
- The University of Dundee
- LCD Centre of Sweden

The EU funding stopped in December 2006 but the partners agreed to continue deriving some funds from services to the EU Displays

community.

ADRIA produced a competence map of EU Industry and Academia. SOA led the activity to produce Roadmaps in eight Application Areas - Automotive, Avionics, Medical, Industrial, Public Display, Retail, Mobile Communications and Consumer and Household

The University of Dundee and LCD Centre produced a plan for the introduction into Europe of the highly successful Master's Degree in Display Technology. Le Club Visu organised training workshops, which were recorded and are available on DVD.

The ADRIA website provides an overview of its activities and industry news and can be found at www.adria-network.org.

OptoCem Net

OptoCem Net is a DTI KTN in Optoelectronic Chemical Sensing. The consortium is led by SOA with three partners: Sensors for Water Interest Group (SWIG), Gas Analysis and Sensing Group (GASG) and Scottish Water. The KTN was set up in April 2005 following the first call under the DTI Technology Programme.

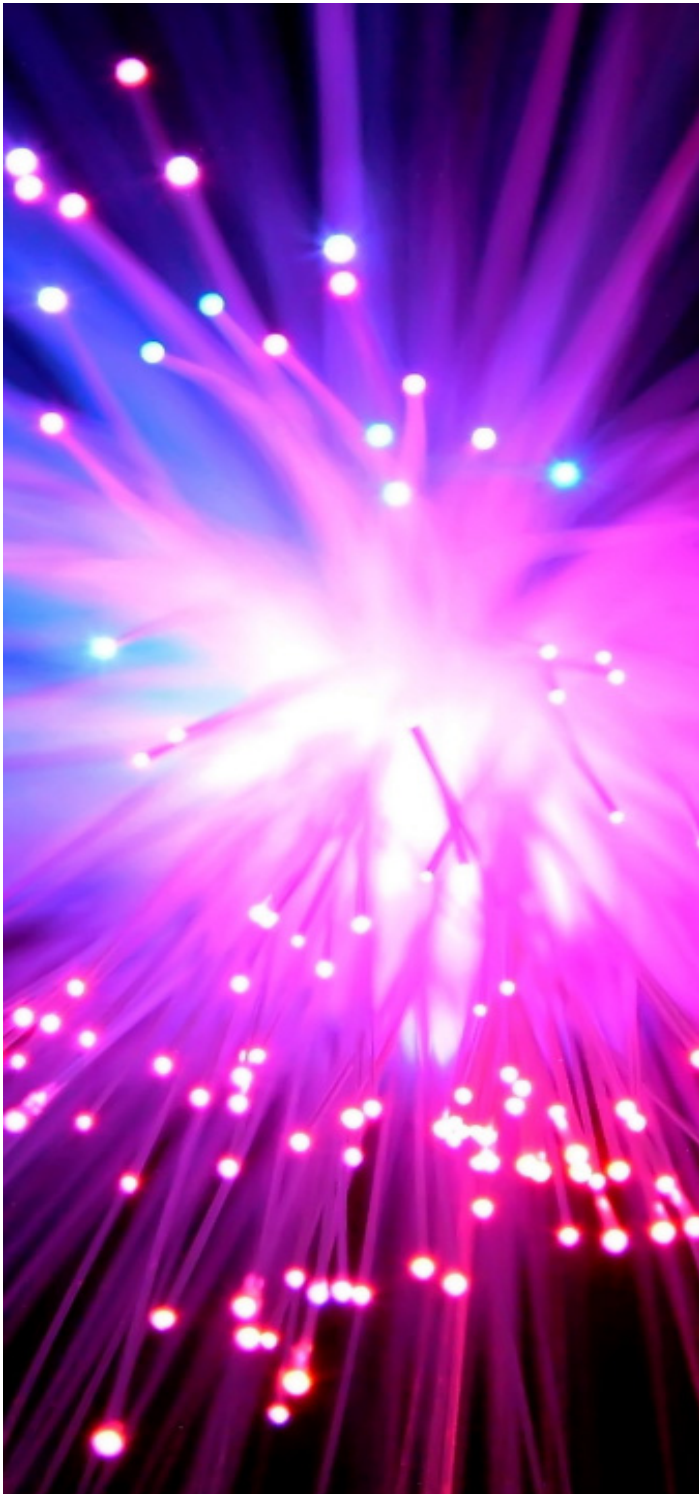
The Network has a web site which explains its activities and where new members can register – see www.optocem.net

The major activities have included a competence mapping of UK organisations in the field of Optoelectronic Chemical Sensing, Roadmaps in three application areas:

- Sensing in the Water Industry
- Sensing in the Oil & Gas Industry
- Gas Sensing

The consortium is now promoting the opportunities identified by the Roadmaps.

Guidance



Photonics Knowledge Transfer Network

The DTI announced the launch of a UK Photonics Strategy and the formation of a Photonics Knowledge Transfer Network on 13th July 2006. There has been a Display and Lighting KTN in existence in one form or another since April 2005. The two together broadly cover Optoelectronics although other KTNs, of which there are about 21, feature optoelectronics products.

Additional information about the KTN can be found at www.photonicsktn.org.

The UK Consortium of Photonics and Optics of which SOA is the secretariat lead the PKTN. Hence, on the formation of the PKTN the recruitment of a UKCPO Executive fell to the SOA and the successful candidate, Ian Tooley, occupies a desk in the SOA Office.

The PKTN, working with the Displays and Lighting KTN, aims to bring together the fragmented UK Optoelectronics industry to contribute to its growth.

The deliverables of the UKCPO within the PKTN partnership are:

- The competence mapping of the UK Industry and Academia.
- The survey of UK Industry and Academia.
- Production of Roadmaps in Photonics.

The UKCPO is an umbrella organisation of all organisations representing the UK Optoelectronics sector. Current members are:

- SOA, representing Scottish Optoelectronics
- WOF, representing Welsh Optoelectronics
- PCUK, Representing Midlands and NE England Optoelectronics
- SEPNET, Representing South England Optoelectronics
- NWPA, Representing NW England Optoelectronics
- FIA, Fibreoptic Industry Association
- UKIVA, UK Industrial Vision Association
- AILU, Association of Laser Users
- IoP, Institute of Physics
- IET, Institution of Engineering and Technology

Support

Over the past year, SOA has participated in a number of support programs to accelerate the growth of the industry in Scotland

EPISTEP – Enhanced participation of SMEs in IST European Technology Platforms

SOA has become actively involved in promoting European Funding schemes especially to our SMEs. FP7 has a dedicated Photonics Unit and the industry has set up a Photonics Technology Platform.

In addition, funding has been dedicated to Photonics specifically. The second call under FP7, which opened on the 15th June 2007 and closes on 9th October 2007, has 90M euros allocated to Photonics for the years 2008/9.

In addition, it is estimated that as Photonics is an all-pervasive enabling technology at least the same again is available in other areas.

SOA is a member of the EPISTEP consortium. EPISTEP aims to assist SME participation in the 6th and 7th Framework Programmes with the objective of enhancing their presence in the IST European Technology Platforms.

The project concentrates on the ARTEMIS (Embedded Systems), ENIAC (Nano-electronics) and eMobility (Mobile Communications) technology Platforms that predated Photonics ETP.

However, SOA's presence in the network can assist its members in European participation.

Additional information can be found at www.epistep.org.

ACCORD

The Advanced Component Co-operation in Optoelectronics Research and Development is a project formed under European Communities FP6.

ACCORD's purpose is to:

- Purchase at marginal cost pre-competitive photonic devices from innovative European companies and put them in the hands of European researchers and students, at no net cost to the university or to the company that furnished the devices.
- Facilitate transfer of device evaluation results to potential end-users, assisting companies to access new markets and new applications.

The ACCORD project was inspired by the successful programme, operated in the USA by our sister association Optoelectronics Industry Development Association, called PTAP.

There were 21 components offered by companies in the first call and Universities submitted 13 Research proposals. An independent panel judged these and five were selected for funding.

Progress on the five projects will be reported at Photonics Europe in April 2008.

Additional information can be found at www.ist-accord.org.

Support



TTOM

Technology Transfer in Opto and Micro-Electronics is a contract funded under the Scottish Executive SEEKIT initiative with equal contributions coming from Scottish Executive, Scottish Enterprise and Europe.

Under this scheme, grants of up to £5000 are awarded to a University to tackle a problem or perform a feasibility study relevant to a SME. The scheme is market led and is consequently driven by the SME.

The scheme has been very successfully advertised and SOA is pleased with the high quality of applications. Meetings and workshops are held on a regular basis especially promoting cross sector interaction. To achieve this effect SOA works with other associations to bring their respective members together.

Since the contract started in November 2004 a total of 43 grants have been awarded from 69 applications (As of July 2007). The grants have enabled the successful companies to make notable achievements in the following areas:

- Additional Sales
- Employment of additional personnel
- Development of new products and processes
- Attraction of follow on investment
- Registration of Patents

Additional information can be found at www.ttom.org.uk.

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The Scottish Optoelectronics Association (SOA) is the industry association for the Optoelectronics sector in Scotland and represents the interests of the sector locally, nationally and internationally. It is a membership-based organisation with members drawn from companies across the entire industry supply chain and academia.