Knowledge Transfer Networks

What is a knowledge transfer network or KTN?

A knowledge transfer network's main role is to put companies and innovators in contact with the knowledge and funding that they need to bring new products and processes to market.

You can use KTN resources to find new routes to market, collaborative partners, new customers, get help to find funding for your projects, get access to the latest academic knowledge and skills, or to understand how new and emerging technologies affect your business model.

We fund knowledge transfer networks to help businesses innovate by:

- providing companies with networking and partnering opportunities
- giving them up-to-date knowledge on markets, technologies and routes to funding
- giving them a voice to influence our strategy and government regulation and standards.

There are currently 19 knowledge transfer networks with a membership of around 60,000. The newest KTNs are in Energy Generation and Supply and Financial Services.

Why join a KTN?

KTNs provide many benefits including:

- **Networking** – frequent opportunities to network with other businesses and academics through targeted events, meetings and special interest groups organised by the KTN.
- **Partnering** – through their contacts and knowledge of your industry, KTNs can help you find partners for new projects and wider business opportunities.
- **Funding opportunities** – advice on Technology Strategy Board collaborative R&D competitions, knowledge transfer partnerships and other sources of funding for innovation such as Framework Programme 7, EUREKA and venture capital.
- **Information and news** – free access to on-line services such as market and technology reports, newsletters, webinars/e-training, events diaries, e-conferencing and collaboration tools, and general sector/application specific information.
- **Policy and regulation** – a communications route between the KTN's community, Government and the EU, giving members the opportunity to influence policies and regulation in the UK and abroad.
- **Our strategy** – KTNs are playing an increasingly important role in the development of the Technology Strategy Board's future direction.

CASE STUDY

Digital Systems KTN

Prof Jonathan Raper and Dr David Mountain, equity partners in Placr – a new spinout in mobile geospatial solutions - are enthusiastic advocates of the Digital Systems KTN.

'The networking opportunities, the informal advice and the real-life examples of working business models had tangible value to us when we were planning the spinout,' says Jonathan.

He credits the Digital Systems KTN with giving Placr the confidence to take the leap from piecemeal consultancy to a fully fledged spinout. 'Resigning part of a safe academic job for the uncertainties of the highly competitive mobile information market is a big step out of the comfort zone. The practical support the Digital Systems KTN has been able to give has been really important.'

'The Digital Systems KTN has been instrumental in creating the innovation climate for small businesses like Placr to succeed.'

Technology Strategy Board
Driving Innovation

For more information visit **www.ktnetworks.co.uk** or contact the individual KTN listed overleaf.
For information about the Technology Strategy Board see **www.innovateuk.org**

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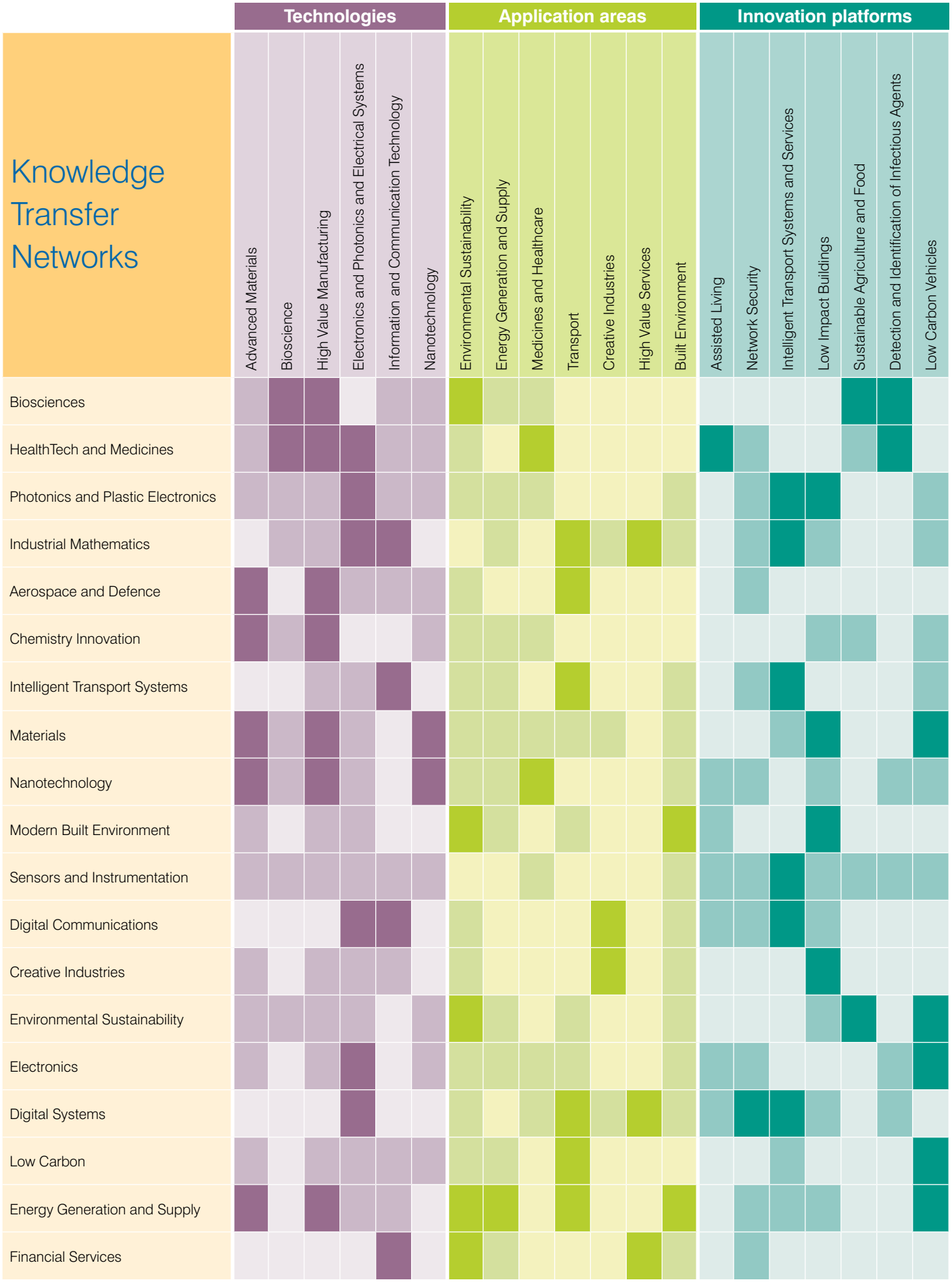

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