

## North West placing itself at the forefront of atmospheric plasma development:

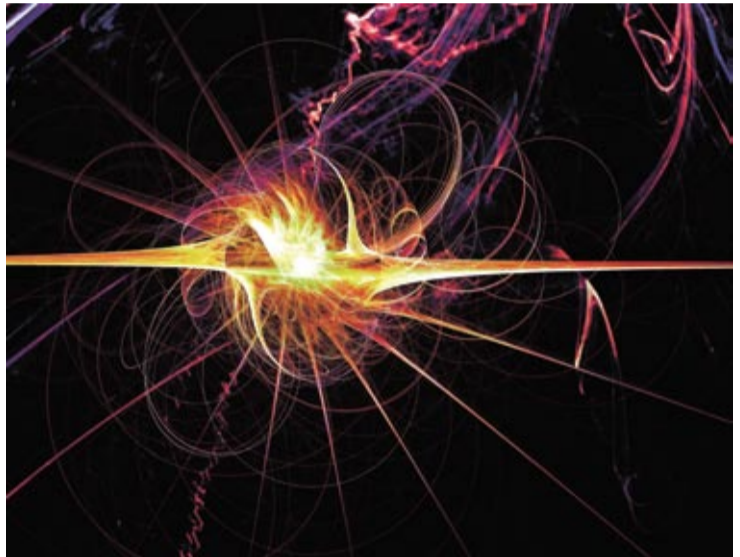
Following on from earlier work conducted by Connautech, NWtexnet are to commission a series of trials across a range of technical fabrics and finishes using a variety of atmospheric plasma application methods.

The trials will commence in January 2009.

The plasma provider will need to demonstrate a proven capability to maintain a sustainable, controlled plasma stream suitable for textile webs.

For atmospheric plasma to be adopted commercially the application methods must satisfy the following criteria:-

- Line speed – cost effective, compatible with existing processes
- Production flexibility – capable switching to a range of processes and substrates with short changeover times
- Reliability – minimum downtime
- Health and safety (electrical, mechanical, emissions)



In addition NWtexnet are looking for significant benefits over existing technology in terms of:-

- Environmental impact
- Operating cost
- Product durability
- New product developments

If you would like to participate in the trials please contact [bill.mills@nwtexnet.co.uk](mailto:bill.mills@nwtexnet.co.uk)

## Are you a 'Garage Innovator' with a science, technology, medicine or engineering background, passionate to see British athletes succeed on the world stage?

Improvement to an elite athlete's performance from an innovative idea or concept can make the difference between gold and silver medals against the toughest competition.

UK Sport want you to submit your revolutionary design and research concepts and ideas if you think they have the potential to improve British athletes' chances.

The UK Sport Garage Innovators Award is worth up to £25,000 in research funding\*, plus the opportunity to witness your idea propelling British athletes to new height, speeds and strengths. Three finalists will each receive a guaranteed cash prize of £500.

Go to [www.uk sport.gov.uk/ideas4innovation](http://www.uk sport.gov.uk/ideas4innovation) to download an application form and full terms and conditions.

**Applications deadline 24th October 2008.**

\*Research funding to be used to enable the researcher to realise their ideas, if not independently, then under the guidance of UK Sport on an advisory role to a UK Sport Innovation Partner. See [www.uk sport.gov.uk/ideas4innovation](http://www.uk sport.gov.uk/ideas4innovation) for full competition terms and conditions.