



Exploring University-Business Partnerships and Identifying the Best Fit to Maximise Research Impact

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24.10.2017



National RDI strategy 2014-2020 "Knowledge-based Estonia"

PRIORITIES

- 1. Excellence and diversity
- 2. Increasing socioeconomic impact of R&D
- 3. Changing the economic structure through **Smart Specialisation**
- 4. International cooperation

Smart Specialisation areas:

ICT

horizontally through other sectors

Healthcare

Biotechnology

E-health

Resource valorisation

Chemical industry (shale oil)

Innovative construction (wood)

Functional food

Innovative materials





Estonian Research and Development and Innovation Strategy 2014-2020

"Knowledge-based Estonia"













TTÜ in numbers

- Appr. 12 000 students (25% of all students in Estonia study at TTÜ)
- 4 faculties (2017)
- 2015/2016 1/3 study programmes in English
- ~2000 graduates each year, 2000 employees
- TTÜ is the most preferred university 72% of high school graduates in Estonia prefer TTÜ for continuing their studies
- 1900 international students from 99 countries (incl. degree and exchange students) 40% of all international students in Estonia
- Over 500 partner universities
- 4 university-business agreements per week
- 6.2% of university's revenue comes from cooperation with companies

TTÜ Innovation and Business Centre Mektory

- Over 200,000 visitors from near 160 countries
- 110 companies, 8 embassies, 50 projects









TUT Innovation and Business Centre

MEKTORY

MODERN ESTONIAN KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER ORGANIZATION FOR YOU





The aims of TTÜ Mektory

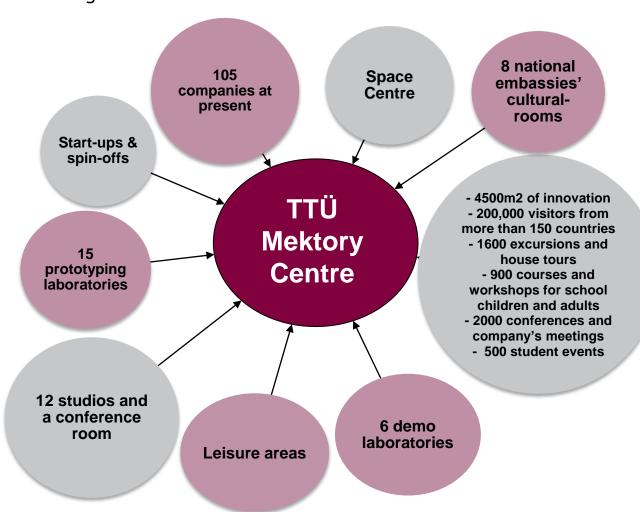
- To bring together scientists, students and entrepreneurs, to solve practical product development problems and generate new intelligent ideas (technology transfer)
- To maximize theoretical studies at the university through practice, to prepare better-trained engineers with experience in cooperating with companies (labs, practical side of the studies)
- To encourage students start-up companies to move forward
- To address upcoming generations and show that engineering is exciting, feasible and down to earth (School of Technology)
- To guarantee success in internationalization by bringing together different cultures, working habits, ideas and interesting solutions

Mektory -a way of thinking!

TTÜ Innovation and Business Centre Mektory

Modern Estonian Knowledge Transfer Organisation foR You

International innovative ecosystem, where businesses, students, professors, schoolchildren and investors from all over the world meet to generate new ideas and innovation together as one team.







Studios and labs in TTÜ Mektory



Studios and demo centres

- Samsung Digital Academy
- Ericsson Connectivity Room
- Ventilation lab "Club Fresh Air"
- Logistics lab
- Business models
- Glass Studio
- Energy Studio





Prototyping and testing labs

- Wood lab, metal lab
- Welding lab, paint lab
- Automaticum, elecronics lab
- Mechatronics lab, Cool Tool studio
- 3D Printing Innovation Lab
- Telia Testlab
- LEGO lab "Playful learning"
- Smart Lab
- Virtual reality lab "Re:Creation"
- eHealth lab, eRiik
- Space Centre
- Heating lab "Utilitas"





Innovation and Business Centre Mektory's services

Technology transfer

R and D Contracts

University Participation policy

Participation policy

Intellectual property and Spin offs

Consulting

Innovation programmes

University cooperation

- Mektory building as a networking venue
- Popularizing engineering among youth
- Start-up ecosystem (programmes)
- EducationUSA Advising Centre







Technology Transfer

Technology transfer is responsible for long term partnership between the university and companies

- R&D: Projects, lab services, consultations, surveys, analyses, long and shortterm contracts;
- Project Management: Preparation of project applications, consultation, administration;
- **Spin offs and start-ups:** Support in creating a spin off/start-up
- Consulting: expert advises, programme development, content marketing, network building, technology review/audit;
- Intellectual property: Commercialisation, funding opportunities, matching researchers with the needs of companies.

6.2% of university revenues come from R&D contracts with companies



How Technology Transfer Works in TTÜ Mektory?

TTÜ Mektory methodology

Companies' R&D staff

Supervisors from University who are responsible for project success

Project team members

All team meetings together with company

Supervisors (among the other fields)

Equipment operators who assure operational safety

Potential for intellectual property



Cooperation with: ERICSSON

- R&D projects 3-5 up to 10 years
- TTÜ Mektory projects with students max 1 year
- TTÜ Mektory building Ericsson demo-centre, 4G, 3G, WIFI testing ground
- Studies/education Lectures, developing degree programmes, educational programmes for entrepreneurs
- Lab investments
- Activities and events with students Conferences, job shadow days, students join Ericsson's internal career fairs, company tours, brain-storming evenings
- Technology trainee programm 8-month internship with salary for most talented students
- Internship of scientists Scientists work part-time at Ericsson
- Entrepreneurship competitions for school children

Science and education are a part of company's innovation!



National initiative: Support for Applied Research in Smart Specialisation Growth Areas

Areas supported: all smart specialization areas

- Funding upto 2 M€ with support rate from 50-70% for applied research and 25-45% for product development (depending of the size of the company)
- Evaluation is based on the number and performance of cooperation projects of R&D institutions
- As a result of product development, companies can have the prototype of their product/service tested in the operational environment, elaborate and qualify systems and test the product/service in the actually existing form in the operational environment.



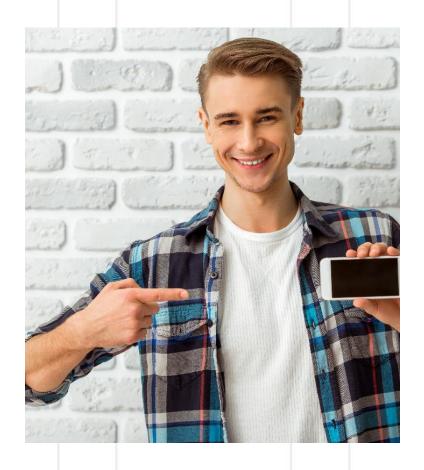
Some examples of cooperation

CybExer Technologies (Applied Research of the Technical Aspects and Threat Vectors of Cyber Hygiene)

Thinnect (Development Plan Smart Environment Networking Technologies)

Guardtime (Development of BLT signature infrastructure)

Thermory (Applied Research of the demand based saw material production optimization model)





Principles for creation of spin off's

Spin-off is **private legal entity**

The founder is **university staff member**

The company is based on:

- TTÜ R&D results or know-how
- company uses TTÜ labs in its activities

The ownership of TTÜ **will be decided case-by-case**: if the spin-off is based on TTÜ invention then the ownership of the TTÜ is at least 10%.

A few examples of spin-offs in TTÜ:

- Crystalsol GmBH development of solar cells
- IVEX Lab OÜ DNA expression construct cloning and mutagenesis, focus on lentiviral-mediated expression
- SafeToAct development of affordable high fidelity simulation models for training image guided interventional procedures



Participation policy

 In order to fulfil the objectives of the university, it can either participate or establish legal bodies (technology development centres, professional and trade associations and spin offs).

Independent, state supported research organization focusing on long-term collaboration in strategic important areas between academia, industry and the public sector. TTÜ is acting as a partner in 5 competence centres

Institutions that combine workers and organizations according to their field of activity, profession or any other specific feature that they are connecting diferent parties

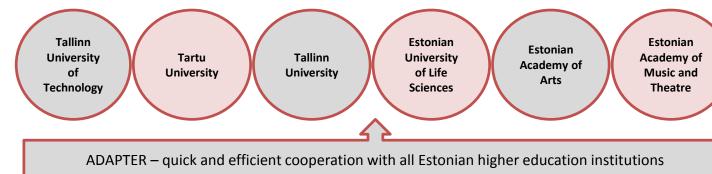
A company established/
partly owned by researchers
and/or students of TTÜ. Founded
to enhance the results of scientist's
or student's own research activity
and scientific knowledge.
13 spin offs are registered in TTÜ

Spin offs

- TTÜ is participating as a shareholder, partner or member of 58 different trading companies, NGOs, foundations.
- Innovation and Business Centre coordinates the establishment of TTÜ's legal entities, bureaucratic procedures and supervises all the related actions.



ADAPTER – a joint platform for companies



Research and development co-operation

Product development

International marketing and co-operation



Contact point to meet the requirements of entrepreneurs with the competence and technologies of all universities!



The first aim: technology transfer

To bring together scientists, students and entrepreneurs; solve practical product development problems and generate new intelligent ideas!

TTÜ Mektory methodology

Companies' R&D staff

Supervisors from University who are responsible for project success

Students from different faculties as interdisciplinary project team members

All team meetings together with company

Mentors (among scientists and alumni)

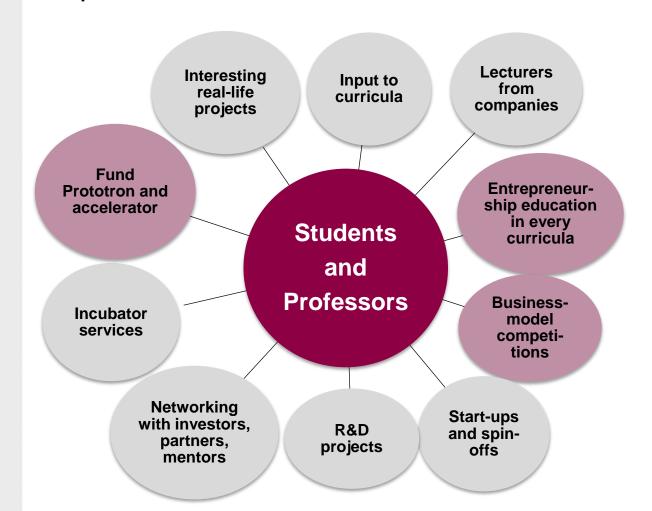
Equipment operators who assure operational safety

Outcome – TTÜ Mektory's R&D project finished in 4 to 8 months
At least 30 projects every year

The second and the third aim: support student activities



- To tie theoretical studies at the University with the practical side
- To prepare better-trained engineers with an experience of cooperation with companies.
- To encourage student's start-up companies and professor's spin-offs to move forward





TTÜ Mektory Start-up Programmes



YOUTH START-UP PROGRAM "BRIGHT MIND"

- Target group: all students from middle and high-schools all over Estonia, teachers, parents and local entrepreneurs
- Skills and knowledge of the start up world for students
- The program ends with youth start-up competition
- 450 students and 40 teachers from 12 counties has taken part in the Bright Minds programme this year
- Bright Minds Finals April 21, 2017
- Sponsor Swedbank, support by European Social Fund, Tallinn Enterprise Board, Veebimajutus.ee, Zoombook, Lux Express.
- **Next step:** joining start-up pre-incubation program!

PRE-INCUBATION PROGRAM "STARTERtech"

- Target group: all students from Universities, Applied Science Universities, Vocational Schools
- A 4-month start-up idea development program trainings, lectures and workshops and e-courses on Youtube.com
- Financed by EU Funds, sponsored by companies and Tallinn Enterprise Board
- Mentors from companies, coaches from TTÜ
- Evaluation of the start-up team and idea development
- Next step: start-up competitions and incubators
- Start-up pre-incubation for Advanced teams will start on February 20, 2017

START-UP COMPETITIONS

- Target group: all student start-up teams
- Technology oriented ideas
- There has been 7
 competitions in six years
 including 26 different
 nationalities, over 1000
 participants and more than
 250 new business ideas
- Mentors from companies, coaches from TTÜ
- Business angels and investors and mentors in Jury
- Great prizes include room in Mektory, Study Trips, International Competitions
- Next steps: Prototron Fund, Ajujaht Competition, incubators, accelerators
- Next start-up competition in December 2017

INCUBATION ACTIVITIES

- Target group: start-up teams from the competition or preincubation
- Free office in Mektory Centre
- Participation in trainings and lectures, information about different financing opportunities
- Supporting activities

 (laboratories, meeting rooms, technical support, advice)
- Possibility to meet and get introduced with investors, funds, international delegations
- Possibility to mentor, coach and train others – students, school children and teachers
- Mektory is a link between investors, accelerators and incubators



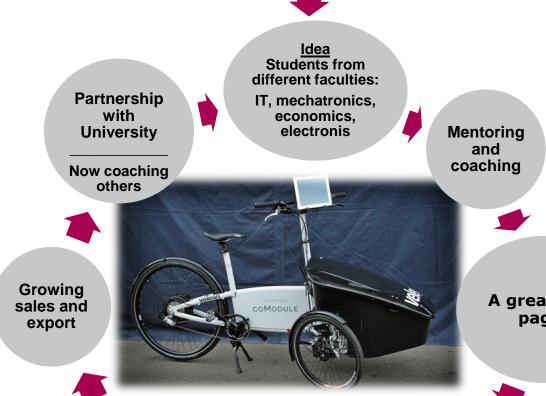








Circle of Successful Start-up in Mektory



COMODULE

- Established in 2013
- Started with TTÜ-Formula1 and weldless batteries.
- Now developing (semi-) autonomous electric bikes with Ford and Baidu.
- Participated in University Mobile Challenge 2014
- Founded by Startup*Bootcamp*

www.comodule.com

A great onepager

New product development

> Free office in Mektory

Finalists of the competition in 2013!



Start-up companies in Mektory























- 3D Academy provides ideas on how to combine your everyday work with a innovative and exciting world of 3D printing.
- Smart Load Solutions (SLS) is creating new cloud based service, which reduces electricity bills and increases electricity sells revenues by optimizing and shifting load according to the day-ahead prices. (smart electricity)
- **Lainergy** is developing a mobile ocean wave energy converter (energy converting)
- **FusionPedal** creates a guitar pedal system, which helps guitarists to focus on making music (music equipment)
- **Lawtitude** Tech law consulting for start-ups (law)
- **Foxcademy** education platform for highschools (education technologies)
- **Avionica** is making flying drones safer (aviation technologies)



Industrial PhD at TTÜ

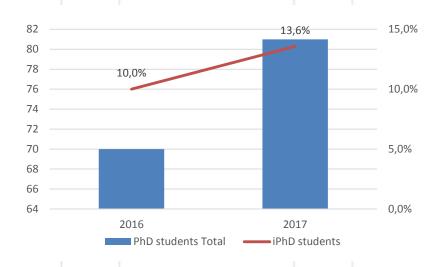
An Industrial PhD is a industrially focused research project and PhD education which is carried out in collaboration between a company, an Industrial PhD candidate and a university.

- An Industrial PhD student is employed in the private sector company and enrolled at the university.
- The student is hired by the company and receives a wage during the entire Industrial PhD project.
- The student shares her/his working time between the company and the university, and spends most of the work time on the Industrial PhD project.
- Expected duaration of the project is 4 years



Industrial PhD-s at TTÜ





There has always been the need for industry driven PhDs.

During 2008-2011 a national trial programme for supporting iPhD-s.

Admission of industrial PhD-s must be increased. We expect at least 15 % of admission to be iPhD students.



Prototron Fund and Science Park Tehnopol Startup Incubator

- In 2012, Swedbank, Tallinn University of Technology and Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol founded Prototron fund to support business ideas
- Prototron is the first fund in Europe granting equity free funding to startups so they could build their first working prototype to test on customers.
- Prototron gives seed funding 5000 10 000€ for start-up idea. In 5 years 500 000€ has been given to over 41 new ideas focusing on: electronics, mechatronics, greentech, ICT
- Prototron supports TTÜ research teams whose applications are based on inventions of TTÜ with up to 50 000€. The applications will be evaluated by the expert committe who will make the final financing decision
- In 2016 The Harry and Reba Huge Foundation supported the with 50 000\$.

Sciencepark Tehnopol Startup Incubator

- 32 start-up companies
- Targeted at tech companies
- Rental spaces, business development services
- Network of contacts
- Start-up events







The fourth aim: activities for school-children and teachers



To support the up-growing generations and school teachers: to show that engineering is exciting, feasible and down to earth; to prepare entrepreneurial and ambitious future students.

Tours and workshops for all ages **Competitions** for Schoolchildren and **Teachers** WHY WE DO IT: **Preparing up-growing** generation Courses for school Interesting learning children environment Practical skills and knowledge of today's technologies and engineering Visualizing career **Technology** opportunities camps Bringing ideas to life

Collaboration projects with embassies, companies, counties, etc



School of Technology received national recognition for populizing science

Teacher's development programmes

Curricular education in Mektory





Thank You!