Metalysis opens Materials Discovery Centre at the Advanced Manufacturing Park

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HIGHLIGHTS

- £10m expansion across new R&D facility, the Materials Discovery Centre at the Advanced Manufacturing Park, Rotherham, and ‘next generation’ technological expansion at Materials Production Centre, Wath-upon-Deanne, South Yorkshire.
- Enlarged company to employ 100 people across Metalysis’ production and research sites.
- Launch exhibition at the AMP - *The Future of Solid State Metal Processing* - convened 200 attendees from global additive manufacturing, metals, aerospace, engineering, trade associations, government, banking and academia.
- Speeches and ribbon-cutting by Lord Prior of Brampton, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and Chris Read, Leader of Rotherham Council.

Metalysis (or “the Company”), the Company behind a disruptive technology for solid-state metals and novel alloys production, today announced its arrival at South Yorkshire’s Advanced Manufacturing Park (“AMP”).

At its new Materials Discovery Centre, Metalysis will carry out bespoke, commercial R&D projects to produce exotic metal powders for high performance alloys of growing demand among additive manufacturing applications, such as the aerospace and automotive industries. Its first new customer, rare earth miner Mkango Resources, announced 20 March that it had signed up Metalysis for a commercial R&D programme to develop 3D printed rare earth magnets for electric vehicles.

More than 200 company executives, researchers, scientists, politicians and financiers visited the Materials Discovery Centre to learn more. Metalysis held an exhibition within the factory, titled *The Future of Solid State Metal Processing*, and a one-off chance to tour the Company’s new operations. Live experiments, powder processing, presentations and even a lab turned into a cinema provided multiple platforms to map out the Company’s ambitious plans for further growth.

Metalysis has committed approximately £10 million to creating the Materials Discovery Centre and at its Materials Manufacture Centre in Wath-upon-Deanne, where the Company is completing its ‘Generation 4’ technological expansion, taking production capability to new levels. Generation 4 will enable ‘Generation 5’, which Metalysis anticipates commencing this calendar year: manufacturing options for thousands of tonnes per annum of high value metal alloy powders.

Post expansion, Metalysis will employ at least 100 people across its South Yorkshire sites and recruitment has begun in earnest. The workforce will receive its first boost in May when four traineeships begin, and talks are ongoing to create local apprenticeships, adding to its operations, R&D, analytical services and administration business functions. Metalysis will also continue its tradition of creating work placement opportunities and supporting school career activities for science, technology, engineering and maths (‘STEM’) students from local secondary schools, having last year created four positions.
Douglas Caster, Chairman of Metalysis, said:

“We are very proud to be part of the UK’s fourth industrial revolution and we do so with responsibility and optimism.

“We have a truly unique, patented technology that can produce highly desired metals and novel alloys which have historically been considered too difficult, or too exotic and costly. The UK stands to benefit from our world-leading, transformational process and I am very excited to seeing what the coming decade will bring for Metalysis.”

Dion Vaughan, CEO of Metalysis, said:

“Here at our new Materials Discovery Centre, Metalysis will carry out bespoke, commercial R&D projects to produce exotic metal powders for high performance alloys used by customers such as the aerospace and automotive industries. Titanium compositions for light-weighting vehicles, High Entropy Alloys for aero-engines and Rare Earth elements for permanent magnets for electric vehicles are a few examples of the projects we are working on.

“Using the deep talent base around Sheffield University and AMRC, fantastic and capable colleagues in this historically industrious Rotherham area, supported by patient capital, Metalysis will define the next chapter in an arc of innovation stretching back to Huntsman, Bessemer and Brearley.”

Chris Read, Leader of Rotherham Council, said:

“The council has worked with Metalysis since 2004 and watched the company progress from theoretical research to game-changing technology that is set to transform the metals industry.

“The fact that global technology rich brands like Metalysis are choosing to locate in Rotherham’s Advanced Manufacturing Park sends out an important message about the attractiveness of our region.

“Building on Rotherham’s reputation for high skilled, high-quality manufacturing, this new development from Metalysis ensures that we remain at the cutting-edge of innovation and research, bringing the next generation of engineering and manufacturing jobs.”

Lord Prior of Brampton, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), said:

“Through our Industrial Strategy we will support sectors across the UK by commercialising and building on our scientific and research strengths to deliver real-life solutions that have a global impact.

“The investment in the new Materials Discovery Centre at the Advanced Manufacturing Park will lead the UK’s effort to develop innovative materials for the manufacturing industry, and uphold our reputation for scientific excellence across the world.”


Proceeds were raised for The Rotherham Hospice.
Notes to Editors

Metalysis Ltd. is a growing company with global rights to a disruptive solid state metal powder manufacturing technology, originally based on the Fray-Farthing-Chen (“FFC”) Process invented at the University of Cambridge, UK; a low-cost and environmentally friendly process over traditional metal production methods.

Metalysis’ process, now proven at industrial scale, can generate high margins from the manufacture of metal powders for markets including 3D printing.

The Company is committed to transforming the metals industry through the commercial exploitation of our patented process for producing titanium, tantalum, graphene, rare earths and scandium, and innovative alloy powders.

Based in South Yorkshire, Metalysis benefits from a supportive shareholder base including Iluka Resources, Woodford Funds and BHP Billiton. This has enabled the Company to raise substantial funds to carry out its Generation 4 (“Gen 4”) expansion, now underway, which can provide hundreds of tonnes per annum of valuable speciality metal alloy powders. The next stage of growth for its modular technology, Generation 5, presents distributed manufacturing options for thousands of tonnes per annum of high value metal alloy powders.