

RAEng Visiting Professors Workshop September 2006

A personal view from an industrial perspective.....

- **Does industry know what it wants?**
- **An international perspective**
- **Industry / University links**
- **Higher Education as part of the total picture**

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Does industry know what it wants?

- **Industry talks a lot about what it needs but.....**
 - **Does it really know what it wants?
and.....**
 - **Does behaviour match rhetoric?**
- **Higher Education has responded pretty well to messages from industry but.....**
 - **The message is not always clear**
 - **And sometimes when it is clear... it is wrong**

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An International Perspective

- **Graduates we recruit from outside the UK are usually very high quality**
 - **Broad educational base, technical depth, relevant work experience, mobile, committed, culturally aware....**
- **Staff in European universities seem more inclined to help on career issues**
- **In USA engineers appear more focused on further development than those in the UK**
- **Globalisation is real but not yet fully understood**

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Industry / University Links

- **Effective links are of paramount importance for:-**
 - effective research
 - quality teaching
- **Rolls-Royce UTC model...has many strengths**
- **Transfer of people between industry and academia does not happen naturally in the UK**
- **Such moves appear more common in our other key engineering locations**

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Higher Education as part of the total picture

- **Student choice in secondary education**
- **Careers advice in secondary schools**
- **HE “teaches only the teachable”**
- **Concentrate on the fundamentals**

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