

Manufacture production structures, for separation, storage and purification of oil and gas, water and chemicals by producing, refining and fabricating processes and performance.

"This should allow us to change the way we build, operate and maintain our equipment, manufacture cleaner and more efficient products, develop innovative energy sources and then share that energy for when it is needed most and increase the use of lighter metals and composites for structures and products," added Doolley.

Notes to editors:

The universities will have available freedom to publish and write the journal resulting from the BP-UKAs work, with commercial agreements with other specific technological applications of the work.

BP works with some 200 universities around the globe and has a number of long-term strategic partnerships with leading universities in the UK, US, China, Russia.

The University of Manchester is already home to BP's Process and Engineering College and a major industrial partner within BP's University Research Facilities Research Programme and includes a BP funded research laboratory in chemistry.

The University of Cambridge has a long association with BP. Since 2008, the BP Institute for Hydrocarbon Flow has formed an important part of the relationship and in 2010 BP funded the new Materials Chair in Earth Sciences.

Imperial College, London, conducts a wide range of research for BP including in the areas of reservoir characterisation, process modelling, climate change, seismic imaging and urban energy systems. In 2009 the start-up company Permasense, providing wireless corrosion and non-destructive monitoring technology, was formed based on BP funded research.

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