

# RAICo – Past, Present, and Future

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RAICo Interim Academic Lead

## **Precursor to RAICo (2017 - 2022)**



























**RAIN** 



INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY



UK Research and Innovation









**CREATEC** 





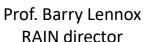






**JACOBS**°







IN-KIND SUPPORT FROM INDUSTRY £1.5m

FINANCIAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY RAIN INSTITUTIONS

£9.4m

**FOLLOW-ON PROJECTS FUNDED PRIMARILY BY INDUSTRY** £613k INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION

FOLLOW-ON PROJECTS FUNDED PRIMARILY BY INDUSTRY £173k EPSRC CONTRIBUTION

> FOLLOW-ON PROJECTS FUNDED BY INNOVATE UK £15.87m INNOVATE UK CONTRIBUTION

ADDITIONAL FUNDING TOTAL £51.6m

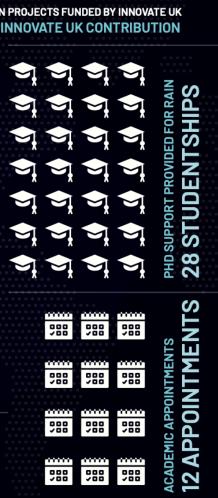
**RAIN-RELATED PROJECTS FUNDED** BY RESEARCH COUNCILS

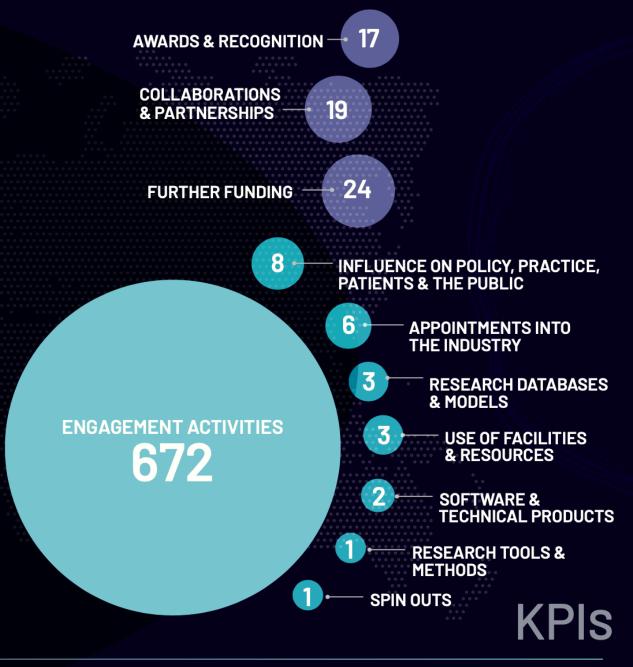
#### ORIGINAL RAIN FUNDING TOTAL £15.2m

**ACADEMIC** INSTITUTIONS (£3M)

£24m

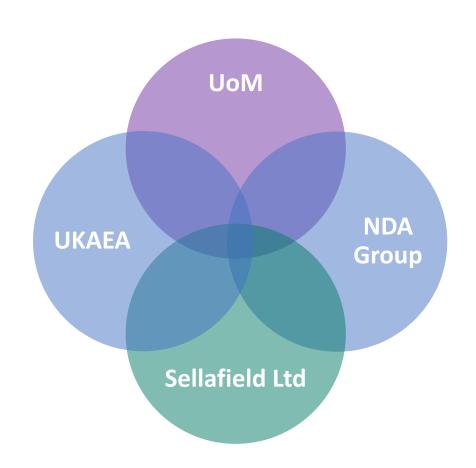
**EPSRC GOVT** FUNDING (£12.2m)





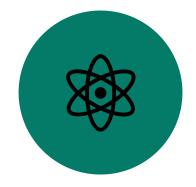
### **RAICo overview**



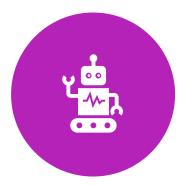




End-user-led collaboration



Fission decommissioning and fusion engineering



Operationalization of robotics into the nuclear sector



Remotely operated solutions



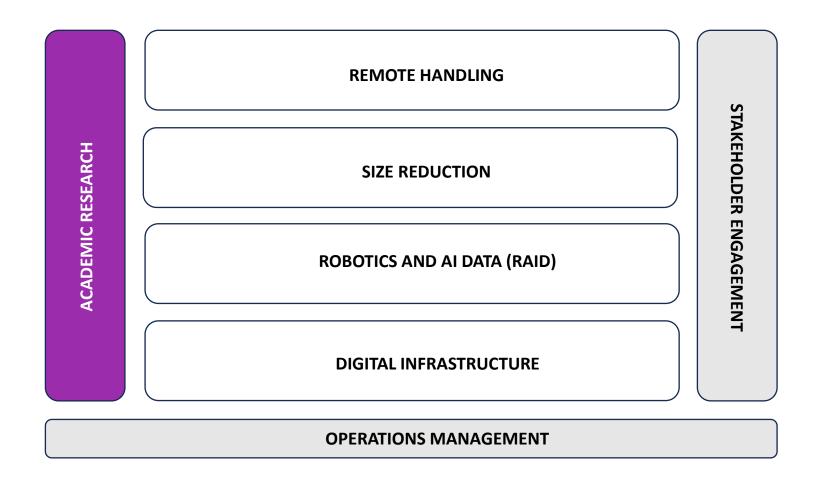
Intelligent customer and supply chain capability and capacity



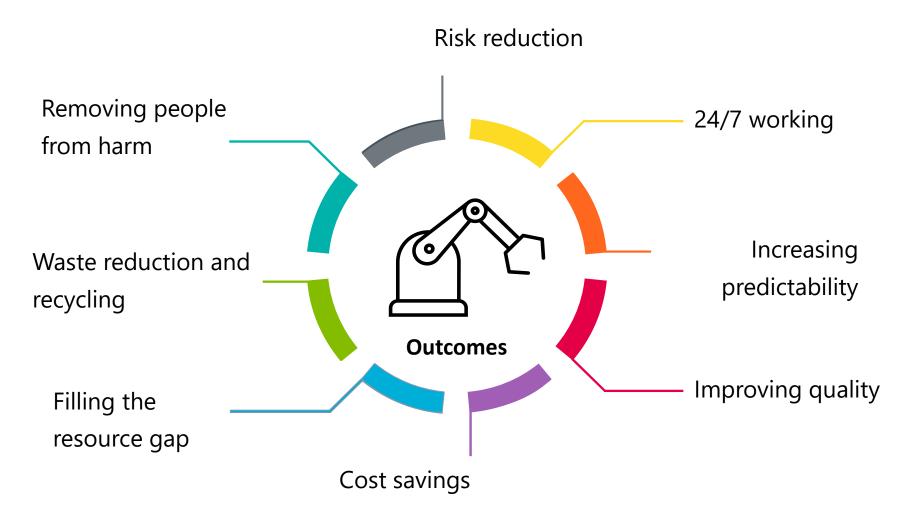
Socio-economic impact in Cumbria (leveling up)

### **RAICo Themes**











### Academic involvement in RAICo





- A focal point for the UK robotics academic community.
- Collaborative space for academics to work with the nuclear industry and demonstrate technology.
- Funding to enable UK universities to get involved.
- A route from technology development to deployment.





Facility where SL, UKAEA and UK academia can work together to develop robotic solutions.





A National Nuclear User Facility

#### **RAICo ROBOTICS AND** AI COLLABORATION

#### Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs)















Deeptrekker DTG 3

**Testing & Demonstration Spaces** 







#### **Sensors & Detectors**







Hydromea LUMA 500



Inertial Navigation System



Intel Realsense L-515









Olympus Handheld XRF



Ouster OS0-128







SICK 2D LIDAR TIM5xx



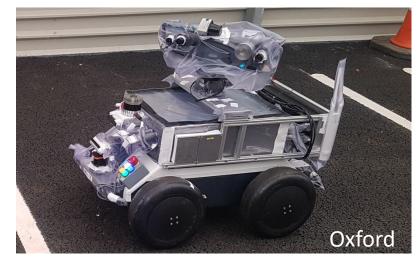
STS Safe-miniSource

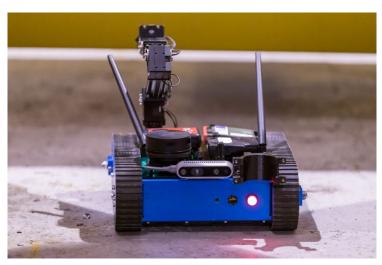


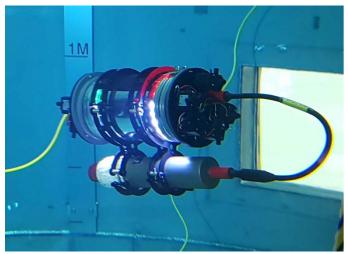


## **Academic Engagement: Remote Inspection**













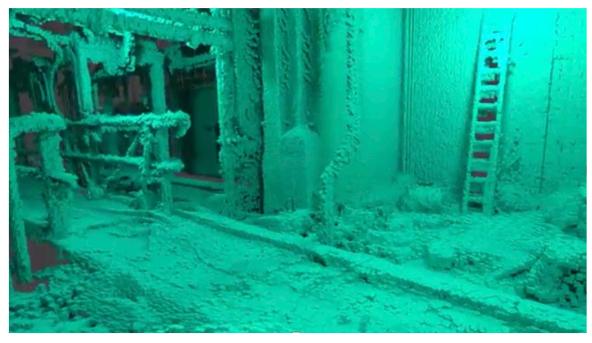




## Remote Inspection: Sellafield



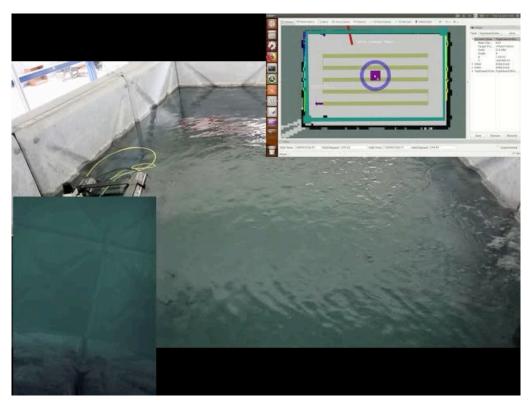




3D map created inside Magnox reprocessing facility

## **Aquatic Inspection: Sellafield**





Inspection of ponds...



and silos...

## Transferring technology from other sectors





Folding drone developed for the inspection of mines beneath railway lines (involved Headlight AI, Thales, Callen-Lenz, Bristol, Royal Holloway)

## **UoM's robotics research group in RAICo1**



- Three academic staff
- 10 PDRAs, PhD students, Experimental Officers, Project Managers, Administrators
- RAICo1 building hosting demonstration and development spaces, significant investment into RAICo program by Sellafield Ltd



## **Concluding remarks**

- RAICo2
- Next technological challenges
- Opportunities

