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Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council

Universities of Sheffield
Cambridge &
University College London

National Epitaxy Facility Summer 2026 Newsletter

Celebrating the Facility's news and achievements from the last 6 months

Facility News

NEF Mid Term Review

We were delighted to be rated as 'Exceptional' in the Facility Mid-Term Review commissioned by the EPSRC. The panel, of semiconductor experts from academia and industry, were very impressed with the team's commitment and Facility's management and vision for the NEF.

DSIT's £6.6m investment

We received funding as part of a £6.6m investment from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), which directly supports upgrades to our capabilities, enabling us to provide cutting-edge epitaxial growth services to researchers and industry across the UK. [Read more.](#)



EDI Pilot Study to Increase Diversity of Semiconductor Researchers

We partnered with REWIRE-IKC, CHIMES-IKC and The Compound Semiconductor Manufacturing Hub for a Sustainable Future to launch a new project to help drive meaningful change in the diversity of the UK semiconductor sector. [Read more.](#)

NEF Community Consultation

A massive thank you to everyone who completed our community consultation survey to inform the Facility strategic direction over the next 5-10 years, which reflects the changing R&D landscape in the UK.

Facility Tours

We have held a number of Facility tours over the last 6 months, including visits from DSIT, EPSRC & the UK Semiconductor Centre, Singapore Polytechnic, University of Sheffield's Council & Faculty Executive board.

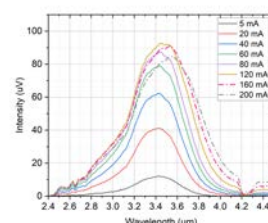


Scientific Highlights

GaSb based interband cascade light emitting diodes

(M. Yang et al)

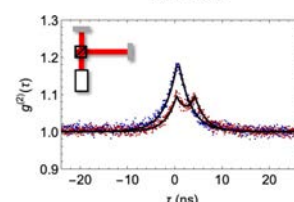
NEF staff and students in Sheffield successfully fabricated GaSb-based (ICLEDs) and characterized their room-temperature electroluminescence at approximately 3.5 μm . [Read more.](#)



Photon Bose-Einstein Condensates finding practical applications

(Schofield et al)

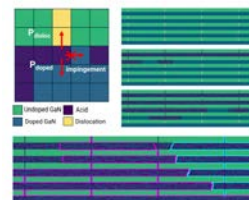
A recent paper, with quantum well DBRs grown at NEF, has demonstrated the use of the photon BEC for optical range sensing. [Read more.](#)



Simulating etching of GaN-based semiconductor mirrors

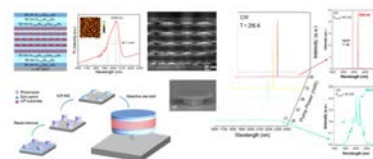
(P. Sokolinski et al)

This article introduces a novel model for the fabrication of mirrors in gallium nitride (GaN) by electrochemical etching. [Read more.](#)



InAs/InP quantum dot lasers beyond 2 μm (H. Zeng et al)

NEF at UCL demonstrated InAs/InP quantum-dot lasers operating beyond 2 μm , highlighting their device performance and potential for compact short-wave mid-infrared photonics. [Read more.](#)



Events & Conferences

UK Semiconductors 2026

UK Semiconductors 2026 was a great success, bringing together researchers, industry partners, and students from across the UK semiconductor community. [Read more.](#)



NEF Virtual Open Day and ECR Event

We held our first-ever Virtual Open Day and Early Career Researcher (ECR) online event in April, bringing together researchers, industry representatives, and students from across the semiconductor community. [Read more.](#)



Other conferences attended by NEF staff:

- ICMOVPE XXII conference in Korea ([read more](#)) and ICMBE 2026 in Michigan.
- EPSRC eFutures Network+ workshops. [Read more.](#)
- Imec's Workshop on Fundamentals and Advances of Processes in Belgium. [Read more.](#)
- Cambridge Wireless Technology & Engineering Conference 2026. [Read more.](#)
- Pint of Science festival in Sheffield. [Read more.](#)

We look forward to sharing an update on the next 6 months in our Christmas newsletter!



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