Aspirations: to assist industry’s drive for new product and service development and profitable growth through services focused on ultrasonic technology. The government supports innovation driven by collaborative projects between industry and universities, creating ‘Centres of Excellences’ to achieve this – the Government Office for Science will refresh the “Foresight Report on Technology and Innovation Futures: UK Growth Opportunities for the 2020s”.

Mission: the CIU will be a global Centre of Excellence (CoE) in all aspects of ultrasonic technology, working with industry to increase its technical capacity and capability through collaborative and innovative research, dedicated industrial networks and regular briefings and updates.

Mechanisms: the CIU will engage with industry through a number of flexible approaches including, long term postdoctoral research projects, short term postdoctoral research projects, funded postgraduate research student projects, short term undergraduate research project and dissemination and outreach activities including an annual CIU members meeting. Funding will be sought for this work where appropriate from organisations such as the EU Commission, EPSRC, Innovate UK, direct industrial funding or others. The CIU will provide assistance in grant preparation where the CIU is a co-beneficiary of the funding and CIU members will be given priority for resources directed to mechanisms of engagement.

Membership: the target for the end of 2015 is 50 industry members. These include: medical, security, NDRT/NDE, flow, pipeline, steam-raising, incl. nuclear, defense, petro-chemical, oil & gas, transport, inspection & testing, insurance, u/s welding, u/s cleaning, automotive, aeronautical, predictive maintenance, packaging, steel production & rolling and marine industries.