

National Automotive Innovation Centre

Location: Coventry, UK

Client partners:

- University of Warwick
- Jaguar Land Rover
- Tata Motors European Technical Centre
- Warwick Manufacturing Group

Dates of involvement: 2012 - 2019

Size: 33,000sqm (GIA)

Construction cost: £80M

BREEAM: Excellent

Awards:

- 2021 RIBA Regional Awards Building of the Year
- 2020 BCO National Award for Innovation
- 2020 Building Awards Project of the Year
- 2020 AIA UK Award for Sustainability
- 2020 Wood Awards - Structural Award
- 2020 FX Awards - Large Office - Finalist

“It is great to see this new building being recognised and is testament to the wealth of architectural and engineering talent that was brought together to deliver this exemplary sustainable building. It brilliantly draws Industry and Academia together providing an inspirational environment to innovate within. As a landmark building it has transformed the campus at the University of Warwick” James Breckon, Director of Estates, University of Warwick

The National Automotive Innovation Centre (NAIC) is one of the largest research and development centres of its kind in Europe, housing up to 1,000 staff under one of the largest timber roofs in the world. It aims to be a stimulus for the rebirth of an optimistic new age for transport mobility in the Midlands.

The NAIC is a partnership between WMG, at the University of Warwick, Jaguar Land Rover and Tata Motors UK. The client partners' vision was to create a collaborative environment for their design, engineering and research groups in the heart of a university campus - fostering innovation and collaboration across disciplines and inspiring a new generation of engineers.

Consultations were held across all the research teams to develop a workplace design that offers a huge variety of work settings, from individual booths to large spaces for the weekly assembly of specialist teams, all gathered around the collaborative hub of the building. Office spaces include practical workshops in desk areas to better connect thinking and making. Their flexible walls help corral research teams and their portfolio of projects; surfaces are reconfigurable, writable, projection friendly.

The scale, complexity, and technical diversity of the range of spaces in the building is almost unparalleled, yet the NAIC has an overriding sense of calm and composure.



Beneath the largest timber roof in Europe, the atrium provides the heart of the project, where all organisations come together to collaborate and work.