Warrington Industrial Sectors:
IT & Software

Software for Industry

Warrington has a track-record of attracting international software development companies, particularly those serving industries such as energy, defence, infrastructure, telecoms and life sciences. The diverse base of local software companies represents indigenous companies such as Datel and MDS to global IT companies including Dassault Systems, Hewlett Packard, DXC Technology and Tata Consulting services (TCS).

Whilst some locally based software companies specialise in specific industries, a number serve a diverse base of sectors. This includes Tessella (part of Altran Group), a French owned company providing outsourced services in data analytics, informatics and scientific software engineering.

Cyber security is a growing area of expertise locally. Hewlett Packard has its Managed Security Service Engineering Division in Warrington and DXC Technology, a US digital services and analytics company has a Security Operations Centre in Birchwood; employing Big Data and Cyber Security experts.

Simulation and modelling is also an area of local expertise. The computer software division of global defence company Dassault has its Simulia Solutions division here. It serves industries including nuclear energy, with specialisms including fracture and failure modelling.

Epicor Software, a US owned company which develops enterprise software for industries including aerospace, life sciences and automotive. Another area of specialism in Warrington is represented by companies serving the Life Sciences sector. These include Technidata Medical Software who provide patient safety software systems for clinical laboratories and biorepositories and Zenith Technologies who develop software systems for pharma and bio-tech companies.

As well as a significant number of foreign owned software companies, Warrington has a strong base of indigenous companies. In particular, MDS who employ over 250 people develop back-office software solutions, including billing, CRM and analytics systems for the telecoms industry. Datel, an accounting and ERP software company and the UK's largest Sage Partner is also headquartered in Warrington.

Warrington has a strong base of computer programming employees and benefits from a large commuter catchment area. There are over 28,000 people employed in computer programming related activities within a 30 minute drive time of Warrington. This enables software related operations to effectively recruit employees with the relevant skills base.

Warrington &Co.

Employment by Selected 2 Digit SIC (Standard Industrial Classification Code)	Warrington 30 min drive time No.	Warrington No.	Cheshire & Warrington No.
62 : Computer programming, consultancy and related activities	23,650	2,250	10,000

Source: BRES, Office for National Statistics, 2016

Support for R&D

The nearby universities in Liverpool, Manchester and Lancaster have considerable R&D expertise to support software companies in Warrington.

The University of Manchester has one of the largest Schools' of Computer Sciences in the UK. The School is ranked in the top 5% in the UK. Areas of specialism include advanced processor technologies, software systems, text mining and visual computing.

Lancaster University has notable expertise in cyber security, with this excellence consolidated in Security Lancaster an EPSRC-GCHQ Centre of Excellence for Cyber Security.

The University of Liverpool's School of Computer Science is ranked (REF2014) as having 97% of its research as being 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent'. Expertise includes: complexity theory and algorithmics; logic and computation. The University works in close collaboration with the Hartree High Performance Computing Centre, at the Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus.

The Hartree Centre just a 20 minute drive from Warrington town centre. It is home to 'Blue Joule', said to be the UK's number one and most powerful supercomputer dedicated to the development, deployment and demonstration of new software. It is capable of over a thousand trillion calculations a second. The calculations can be used to perform advance computer modelling simulation and 3D visualisation. It is the only High Performance Computer of its kind in the UK that can be accessed by companies through an 'on-demand' basis.

Warrington&Co.