

### Regional Growth Fund case studies: no.1



#### **Regenerate Pennine Lancashire**

Regenerate Pennine Lancashire (REGENERATE) is using £7.5 million of RGF funding to help SME's create 3,000 manufacturing supply chain jobs within an array of industries across Lancashire, ranging from engineering, construction and joinery through to product development, digital, telecoms and e-business. Operating as a competitive grant scheme, REGENERATE runs an RGF programme to support local businesses, based on local priorities and needs, and is set to make a major impact on the region's economy through business advice, support and funding.

# Business Secretary Vince Cable recently visited engineering company WEC Group who benefited from REGENERATE grant funding. He said:

"The Regional Growth Fund is doing a great job of supporting business and boosting British manufacturing – particularly in the North West.

"My visit to WEC Group shows the role that Government partnerships can play in helping manufacturing and local enterprise. Regenerate Pennine Lancashire clearly has the right knowledge and expertise to pick those firms that, with a bit of help, can attract private investment and unlock growth for the future. I look forward to seeing what other projects will benefit from their RGF award."

#### **RGF** at Work

#### Dennis Mendoros, Chairman Regenerate Pennine Lancashire

'The Regional Growth Fund will enable us to help high-growth businesses expand. This will allow our businesses to compete on a national and international basis, helping to create new jobs and opportunities for people as a result.'

## Wayne Wild, Group Director, WEC

'It is great news to hear that local companies will have the opportunity to benefit from the Regional Growth Fund. The WEC Group applied for similar funding a few years ago and we haven't looked back since! The £142.000 grant we secured helped us invest in much needed extra capacity which has allowed us to create 40 new jobs in our Laser Division and grow the business by over 30 per cent year on year. Investment is what guarantees sustainability for manufacturing companies, any initiative aimed at boosting British manufacturing should be praised.