

Dear Colleagues,

AWE invites proposals for access to the Orion laser facility at AWE Aldermaston during the period **April 2017 to March 2018**. The facility offers up to 15% (including set-up) of system time to external academic users. Proposals for Orion academic access time will be handled by the Central Laser Facility (CLF) User Office through the same system as proposals for the CLF lasers and prioritised by the CLF HPL Facility Access Panel (FAP). It should be noted that in order to be eligible for academic access time to Orion, the Principal Investigator (PI) must be in receipt of funding from a recognised UK academic institution. There is no such requirement for co-investigators. For further information on the Orion facility please visit the [Orion web site](#) or contact the facility directly.

Experiments conducted on Orion must have relevance to AWE's technical programme. Examples of relevant studies include, among others, HEDP, ignition and burn-related studies, measurements of EOS and opacity, WDM studies, energy transport, and diagnostic development. Prospective users are recommended to check with AWE, prior to developing a detailed proposal, that their proposed experiments satisfy this requirement.

Orion is provided free of charge to academic users for this access time, although it should be noted that AWE will be unable to provide support for T&S. However, the CLF has agreed to provide support at the same level as a current Vulcan experiment, and prospective users of Orion should make travel arrangements/claims through the CLF. Furthermore, targets for these experiments will be provided through the CLF at the same financial and staff resource level as a Vulcan experiment and target costs exceeding the CLF resource level must be funded by the experimental group. It is essential that you contact an appropriate member of staff (Chris Spindloe or Martin Tolley) to discuss your target requirements prior to proposal submission. To enable us to provide technical feedback to the access panel, please make sure you provide all target details in the experimental proposals.

Depending on nationality, clearance to gain access to Orion can take some time, so non-UK nationals wishing to visit Orion should contact AWE well in advance of their first proposed visit.

## **Contact**

It is strongly recommended that prospective PIs contact AWE before constructing their proposals. For further information please contact:

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To discuss your target requirements with CLF Target Fabrication please contact:

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