

**"Design Hub / Prototypical" - Case Histories.**  
**April 2008**

<b>Business</b>	Bionica
<b>People</b>	Dr Nick Montague
<b>Location</b>	Collingham
<b>Nature of Business</b>	Temperature Sensor

This idea is based upon the requirement to use biochemical laboratory reagents at or below very carefully defined temperature limits. In certain reagents are taken from the 'fridge for use and then left on the bench too long, they can get too hot (say above 5°C) and the whole tray worth many hundreds of pounds can be wasted or rendered useless. The device monitors temperature continually and if the dangerous temperature is approached an alarm is triggered using visual and sonic means. The device also records the temperature history over despatch and transit so that control can be maintained.

Nick is a Bio-Chemist and as such uses these temperature sensitive compounds on a daily basis and is only too aware how delicate they can be. He had used the Business Link in the pursuance of a grant to assist with the early part of the process and the Design Hub for both general new product development advice and help with further funding.

We have advised Mervyn on a number of issues, including the use of specialist design consultancies, i.e. electronics (Kappa Controls of Dereham) and product design (Bulbrook of Billingford) and patent services (ip21 of Norwich Research Park). We have also helped with advice, sequencing of events, general discussions on the business connotations, etc.

The device is not only technically novel and very advanced, but it also has the ability to; save wasted / costly reagents and improve the accuracy of laboratory tests. Nick is in the advanced stages of negotiations with potential licensees who wish to produce and sell his device to many producers of laboratory reagents throughout the world. Please find below a picture of nick holding a working prototype of his device.

