

Sense Photonics—experts in lidar and 3D sensors for AVs and industrial automation, will expand their presence in Scotland following a £1.9m (€2.12m, \$2.38m) grant from Scottish Enterprise.

With the support, Sense Photonics will open an advanced lidar research and development centre in Edinburgh, creating 38 high-value jobs. Sense are at the forefront of the innovative lidar industry, with groundbreaking technology based on more than 200 patents.



Headquartered in Durham, in the U.S. state of North Carolina, Sense Photonics currently have a small research base in Edinburgh, with the company already enjoying a positive working relationship with the University of Edinburgh's Institute of Integrated Micro and Nano Systems.

The new centre will include laboratory and office space, and will bring all elements of sensor research and development within a single location, taking advantage of the deep pool of talent in the region. Scottish Innovation Minister Ivan McKee welcomes the development: "This new base will add to Scotland's existing billion-pound photonics sector, which supports 4,000 highly skilled jobs at a value added per employee that is three times the national average".

Founded in 2016, Sense Photonics' lidar system aims to usher in a new era of advanced 3D imaging technology for automotive and industrial applications, including autonomous cars and robotic systems. Rather than using complex scanning solutions to create an image pixel-by-pixel, Sense Photonics captures the entire frame at once, similar to a camera. The company call this flash lidar, which delivers high performance 3D sensing that is simple, modular, scalable and reliable.