

NEWSLETTER

MOMENTUM
ONE
ZERO



“ This year has been about laying the foundation, but next year is about momentum—taking the strides that will turn our ambitions into tangible impact. I'm excited for what's ahead and grateful for the incredible people driving us forward.

— Dr. Stephen McCabe
Interim Executive Director

A TRANSFORMATIVE YEAR REFLECTING ON 2024 AND BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

This year has been monumental for Momentum One Zero. From our official launch on 19th June to securing planning approval for our flagship innovation centre, we've achieved milestones that are already reshaping Northern Ireland's digital economy. As we reflect on 2024, we're excited to share the impact of our journey so far and unveil ambitious plans for the year ahead.

A Foundation for Innovation: Planning Approval Secured

In November, **Belfast City Council's Planning Committee granted full planning permission for our £70m innovation centre at Titanic Quarter.** This state-of-the-art facility will serve as a hub for digital innovation, focusing on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and data-driven technologies that will propel Northern Ireland to the forefront of global innovation.

Professor Sir Ian Greer, Queen's President and Vice-Chancellor, captured the significance of this achievement:

“ *Momentum One Zero will transform Northern Ireland's digital economy, fuel economic growth, and deliver solutions to some of society's most complex challenges. This centre is not just a building—it's a beacon of innovation that will shape our region's future.*

With the green light to move forward, Momentum One Zero is poised to revolutionise the region's role in the global innovation landscape.

Accelerating Progress: Groundbreaking Projects

Our innovation hub has already become a launchpad for transformative projects that address critical challenges.

RiSc+: Revolutionising Supply Chains

With £6.25m in UKRI funding, this initiative is reshaping UK supply chains across key sectors like food, minerals, and fashion. Led by **Dr Hangfei Guo from the Queen's Business School**, and with supply chain engineers based at Momentum One Zero, this initiative will address the vulnerabilities exposed by global disruptions like COVID-19 and climate change.

[Read the full news story](#)



US-Ireland R&D Partnership: AI in Agri-Food

Queen's University, as part of the US-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme, has secured **DAERA funding for an innovative project using AI to improve piglet survival rates.** Led by Professor Ilias Kyriazakis (School of Biological Sciences) and Dr. Niall McLaughlin (School of EECS), the project focuses on reducing preweaning mortality by monitoring feeding patterns and identifying at-risk piglets early. This initiative is a **key part of Momentum One Zero's Digital One Health Hub**, which leverages AI and digital technologies to advance health outcomes. [Read the full news story](#)



Expanding Horizons: New Leaders, New Possibilities

Momentum One Zero's success is powered by the talented individuals behind it. This year, we welcomed three incredible leaders to our team. Their expertise strengthens our ability to deliver innovation that benefits businesses and communities alike.



Andy McClernon
Engineering Director

A seasoned expert in electronics and software development, driving growth across industries.



Heather Alford
Head of Project Delivery

A visionary in life sciences and healthcare with a track record of building high-performing teams.



Dermot Leonard
Commercial Director

A dynamic strategist with deep expertise in fostering impactful collaborations.



Judith Millar
Director of Operations (CSIT)

An adept strategist, she excels in industry engagement & commercial partnerships, and was instrumental in establishing NI Cyber

Shaping the Future: Industry Advisory Board

The formation of our Industry Advisory Board (IAB) marked a significant step in aligning Momentum One Zero's vision with industry needs.

Chaired by Paul Murnaghan, a trailblazer in technology and business, the IAB has been instrumental in shaping our priorities. The most recent meeting, hosted by BT Group NI, focused on leveraging partnerships, advancing secure connected intelligence, and exploring new investment opportunities.



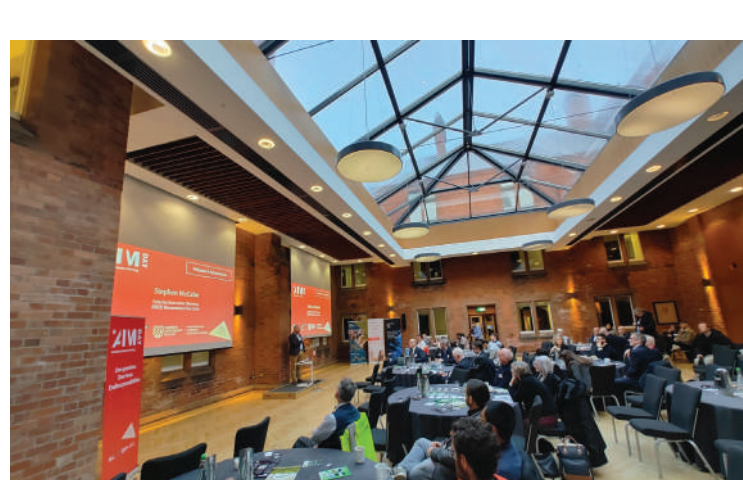
These discussions are driving Momentum One Zero toward becoming a catalyst for sustainable growth and innovation in Northern Ireland.

Fostering Collaboration: AIM Day & Big Data Belfast

Momentum One Zero played a leading role in key industry events this year.

AIMday: Predictive Health Analytics, Nov 2024

Momentum One Zero was proud to co-organize the AIMday Predictive Health Analytics 2024, bringing together researchers and industry leaders to tackle healthcare challenges through predictive analytics. Our team played a key role in driving discussions on AI for early disease detection, data ethics, and collaborative innovation. This event highlights our commitment to leveraging partnerships to revolutionize healthcare.



Big Data Belfast 2024

As first-time sponsors, we were proud to contribute to panels on Agri-Tech and AI in drug discovery, showcasing the transformative potential of AI across sectors. Events like these reinforce our commitment to building a thriving innovation ecosystem in Northern Ireland.

Looking Ahead to 2025: Innovation That Transforms

2025 promises to be a year of unparalleled growth and impact for Momentum One Zero.

Driving Northern Ireland's Economic Growth

As Northern Ireland continues to invest in its digital economy, we are committed to being at the forefront, creating high-value jobs, attracting global partnerships, and fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem. Our innovation centre will become a hub of economic activity, amplifying Northern Ireland's global reputation for technological excellence.

Expanding Hubs of Impact

Our Digital One Health Hub will continue to grow, with plans to integrate advanced technologies into health and agri-food solutions. By addressing pressing challenges like food security and health outcomes, we will drive meaningful change for industries and communities worldwide.

[Explore Our Hubs](#)

Building a Pipeline of Talent

Innovation begins with people, and we are committed to fostering a robust talent pipeline in Northern Ireland. Through mentorship programs, industry-academia partnerships, and upskilling initiatives, we are nurturing the next generation of innovators who will drive the digital economy forward. Momentum One Zero is not just shaping technology—it's shaping the future of work.

Collaborating for a Better Future

Momentum One Zero thrives on collaboration. In 2025, we will strengthen ties with international partners, academic institutions, and industry leaders to solve global challenges and unlock new opportunities for innovation.

Thank You for a Remarkable Year!

As we reflect on 2024, we're inspired by the progress we've made and the possibilities that lie ahead. Your support has been invaluable in helping us achieve our vision, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

Here's to shaping the future of innovation in Northern Ireland and beyond.