



BIOFILMS OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 23 JULY 2025

10.30am - 3.00pm



The TSA has been working with De Montford University (DMU) for several years on industry research and development presenting a pathway for improved understanding of the biological challenges our industry faces. This work has also been supported by our research partners Textile Rental Services Association (TRSA) in America and delivered real initiatives in how the industry measures biological kill in washing processes, has proved domestic washing machines simply don't work when it comes to disinfecting textiles and so the list goes on. However, we are aware of real challenges around the formation of biofilms in all tunnel washers. Biofilms are not unique to our industry and are being investigated by many sectors, but we want to ensure industrial laundry is addressing these significant downstream challenges.

With this in mind, we are delighted that the TSA has been awarded some prestigious funding along with DMU from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council through the NBIC (National Biofilms Innovation Centre) Collaborative Training Partnerships (CTP) grant to appoint two PhD students to work with the industry, its suppliers and other academic bodies to hopefully resolve this niche issue for our industry.

To help guide and support the research, we are thrilled to host this information day where we will highlight the challenges, introduce a potential scope and hopefully appoint a steering group to help drive the project for the benefit of the global industry. It plans to be a very informative day, and we look forward to it!

DATE

Wednesday, 23rd July 2025

TIME

10.30am to 3.00pm

VENUE

Leicester Marriott

Grove Park, Smith Way, Leicester,
LE19 1SW

Onsite parking is available.

EVENT PROGRAMME

- 10.30am** Why engage in the research? - David Stevens, TSA CEO
- 10.35am** What are the challenges for our industry? - Simon Fry, Chairperson of Micronclean and TSA Board Member
- 11.05am** NBIC overview presentation - Will Green, NBIC
- 11.15am** Introduction to biofilms, what they are and why they are a problem - Dr Ray Allan, DMU
- 11.45am** The research to date. What the current project has found and why we need to do more - Professor Katie Laird, DMU
- 12.15pm** Lunch
- 1.00pm** Biofilm Alliance: A Regulatory Science Network - Dr Jay Sangha, NBIC
- 1.30pm** Scope of research and objectives - Simon Fry & Professor Katie Laird
- 1.50pm** Formation of steering group & Panel with speakers from the day/Q&A - David Stevens to chair along with all speakers for a panel session
- 3.00pm** Coffee, Networking & Close
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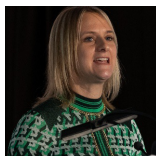
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THE SPEAKERS



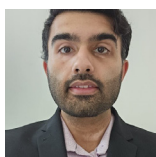
Professor Katie Laird PhD CBiol MSB FHEA, Professor of Microbiology, Deputy Director of the Leicester Institute for Pharmaceutical and Health Innovations at DMU. Her research on the prevention of transmission of Healthcare Acquired Infections has served as the springboard for several milestone research conclusions over the years. Katie leads DMU's research team on TSA's flagship project to develop a global test methodology to validate laundry wash processes. She will outline the research and provide key insights into the complex hygiene challenges in laundry processes. TSA's sponsorship of a PhD project is exploring how industrial laundries may be able to provide effective solutions to these hurdles.



Simon Fry is the owner and Chairman of Micronclean Ltd, who focus on the provision of a decontaminated and sterile garment service to cleanroom industries, specifically to aseptic pharmaceutical production. He is a director of the TSA and currently our Vice Chairman. Simon has championed our collaboration with DMU to better understand the effectiveness of laundry processes to control and kill microbiological contamination



Dr Ray Allan focusses on the investigation of bacterial biofilms, developing an understanding of the adaptive mechanisms they employ to enable their survival within different environments, and their role in chronic infectious disease. His research also includes the identification of targets for the development and investigation of novel treatment strategies for biofilm-associated infections.



Dr Jay Sangha is a Biofilm Alliance Enterprise Fellow at the National Biofilms Innovation Centre (NBIC). His goal is to bridge the gap between cutting-edge biofilm research and regulatory decision-making. As a Biofilm Alliance ambassador, he fosters collaboration among academia, industry, regulatory bodies, and standardisation organisations.



Will Green is Innovation and Partnership Manager at NBIC. He has has a degree in Microbiology and Biotechnology and is working to identify and deliver investment to NBIC's core partners through research and commercialisation of partners IP and develop external relationships with strategic academic and commercial partners.