



## NISSAN TECHNICAL CENTRE EUROPE (NTCE) CRANFIELD, BEDFORDSHIRE

### BACKGROUND

In its 35-year history, NTCE has grown from a small team to approximately 1,000 employees. NTCE's highly skilled engineers ensure specific European requirements are incorporated into all our models, as well as supporting and leading the global development of other vehicles within the Africa, Middle East, India, Europe and Oceania region.

### EMPLOYEES:

1,000

### HOME TO:

Research & Development, Total Customer Satisfaction and Purchasing.

### KEY FACILITIES:

Test and validation facilities for vehicles, systems and components; environmental, body structure, powertrain, research and advanced engineering, autonomous drive lab, customer-orientated engineering, noise, vibration and harshness, materials and vehicle electrical and electronic systems facilities.

### ABOUT NTCE:

Nissan's centre of excellence for the research and development (R&D) of vehicles manufactured across Nissan's European production plants and beyond. A central player in Nissan's global operations, NTCE in Cranfield is R&D's European HQ, and has helped elevate Nissan's market position with the development of vehicles and technologies that meet the needs of customers. Powered by a team of highly skilled engineers and researchers, NTCE sits at the crossroads of Nissan's new product development process, transforming sketches and clay model concepts into production reality. Since NTCE's inception, it has launched 33 models in Europe and beyond, including most recently the 3rd generation Nissan Qashqai equipped with e-POWER, JUKE Hybrid and the 100% electric Nissan LEAF.

### HISTORY:

NTCE originally opened its doors as Nissan European Technology Centre Ltd (NETC) on 27 May 1988 in temporary premises on the Nissan Sunderland Plant site as part of Nissan's strategy to establish R&D capability in the major overseas markets.

NETC's original role was to develop vehicles for the European market which were to be produced at Nissan's plants in Spain and the UK (this included new model development such as Micra and Terrano II) and modifications to existing vehicles.

In November 1989, Nissan invested £31m in NETC for sites on the Cranfield University Technology Park in Bedfordshire and at the Nissan Sunderland Plant. The two sites became operational in September 1991 with Cranfield being responsible for body, chassis, electrical, engine, trim design, component experiment, trial vehicles and project control.

A further £20m investment in early 1992 allowed NETC to build and test prototype vehicles and increase its capacity for the testing of European models.

In January 2000, NETC, its subsidiaries and the US sister company Nissan Research and Development Inc. (NRD) were renamed Nissan Technical Centres; NTC Europe (NTCE) and NTC North America (NTCNA) as additional emphasis was placed on a global functional R&D organisation, sharing and collaborating on work and resources.

NTCE now boasts functions in Barcelona (powertrain and vehicle development), Brussels (regulation and vehicle research) and Bonn (dynamic performance development) while retaining vehicle development, test and validation as well as market quality and advanced research and engineering functions at Cranfield (NTCE's European R&D HQ).