

R&D Tax Relief in Construction and Materials

We've learnt a thing or ten while successfully completing over 4,500 R&D tax credit claims, which we're happy to share with you here.

In this booklet you'll find some information on:

- R&D in Construction and Materials.
- Potential areas of eligibility for R&D tax credits.
- The everyday challenges that might make you eligible.
- Eligibility questionnaire.
- Why Jumpstart?



R&D Tax Relief in...

Construction and Materials

Introduced by the UK Government in 2000, the R&D tax relief scheme is designed to encourage innovation and global competitiveness by allowing companies to reclaim some of the money invested in qualifying research and development. R&D tax credits are generally considered to be one of the most attractive tax reliefs available, often resulting in significant cash repayments from HMRC.

What are the benefits?

The benefits of the programme include increased cashflow, which is especially important to small, developing companies. It also encourages development of a corporate philosophy that embraces innovation and improvement.

Do you qualify?

A common misconception is that the scheme is just for companies with R&D departments and men in white coats. The fact is that any company that spends money trying to improve a product or service through a technological advance, using qualified staff and appropriate project controls, and where there's doubt about the project's success, is likely to be eligible.

R&D in Construction and Materials

A huge variety of engineering and materials companies are involved in, and offer support to, the construction industry in the UK. These span from the manufacturers of concrete, damp proof coursing, tanking, steelwork, render systems, insulation systems, cladding panels - using sheet materials to clay tiles, glulam beams, ETFE (clear plastic roofing system), glazing, fixings, glues and paints and more.

All of these products have to meet specific technical performance requirements, and also comply with constantly changing legislation. Other areas of possible eligibility are in the construction and trialing of prototype homes that are more energy efficient and produce less CO₂, especially to meet ever-stricter regulations.



Jumpstart speak the same language as HMRC and we now accept that without them, we would never have identified the bulk of eligible costs due to a lack of understanding and knowledge of both the scheme and guidelines.

Ian Sanderson, Director
CAPVOND PLASTICS





Despite the technical and complex nature of our business, the Technical Analyst who visited to capture information understood exactly what was happening.

We were not at all sure that we were doing eligible R&D but now we understand fully the process and why what we do is eligible for Tax Credits.

Alasdair Mackenzie,
Managing Director
SMILLIE & CUTHBERTSON



What are the potential areas of eligibility?

A vast range of activity, which could include:

- Increasing the durability / lifespan of materials that protect the exterior of a building;
- Increasing the stability of products (e.g. to reduce sun bleaching);
- Improving the energy efficiency of systems used within a building;
- Developing alternative production or construction techniques to reduce the environmental impact of construction projects;
- Land remediation – developing more effective techniques at removing contaminants from land, or finding ways to remove new combinations of waste chemicals.
- Developing construction techniques to create buildings that are more resistant to earthquakes, storms, and other acts of nature.

What problems might a company face?

- Can't develop land because of the presence of an unusual combination of chemical pollution or because of abnormalities in the geology of the area;
- Trying to inhibit moulds in areas which have high humidity and cross-ventilation is not practical;
- Sick Building Syndrome (in which a combination of flaws in heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems result in poor indoor air quality and respiratory irritations for its occupants).



Expert Advice

Have a thorough understanding of HMRC guidelines. Never claim for work that is uneligible. Tie the claim back to guideline specifics. Use 'user-friendly' language in application: It is vital that the technical report is clear and intelligible



Jumpstart's team eventually recovered a hugely important five-figure cash lump sum that we can now reinvest into new engineering and moulding projects.

Gavin Ballantine,
Managing Director

BALLANTINE CASTINGS



Eligibility questionnaire

If you can answer 'Yes' to most of these questions then, based on our experience across thousands of clients, it looks like you could have a successful claim:

- Have you developed new tools, products or services using technology?
- Have you tried to improve your existing products through technical changes?
- Have you had to resolve technical problems with any of your products?
- Have you found more efficient ways to produce your products or services?
- Have you experimented with new equipment or production techniques?
- At the start of a project, did you ever think 'I'm not sure of the best way to do this'?
- Have any of your projects failed for technical reasons?

Why Jumpstart?

There is no substitute for experience and expertise. Experience gained through years of daily involvement in putting together thousands of successful R&D tax claims. Expertise built through a detailed programme of training and study, maintained and regularly enhanced.

We have helped literally thousands of businesses, some of whom had no idea they would qualify, to recover over a WHOPPING £100M in R&D tax relief benefits.

R&D Tax is all that we do. We do it really well, and we believe that our experience and expertise could help your business.

About **Jumpstart**

Jumpstart are the UK's leading R&D Tax Relief specialist. We employ PHD-qualified scientists and engineers who are also experts in HMRC's guidelines. With thousands of successful claims under our belts, we can help you secure the tax relief you're entitled to. **CONTACT US FOR A FREE R&D TAX CREDIT CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL RETURNS YOU MIGHT EXPECT.**

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