

Date: 18 Mar 2026

Vacuum vessel gravity supports - Purpose-designed insertion tool passes the test

<https://www.iter.org/node/20687/purpose-designed-insertion-tool-passes-test>

[Latest ITER Newline: <https://www.iter.org/whatsnew/492>]

Decades of coding experience are powering the next era of fusion energy

<https://www.pppl.gov/news/2026/decades-coding-experience-are-powering-next-era-fusion-energy>

UK sets fusion roadmap with West Burton STEP project

<https://www.theengineer.co.uk/content/news/uk-sets-fusion-direction-with-west-burton-step-project>

Nuclear, fusion companies sign deals with Japanese counterparts

<https://www.axios.com/2026/03/16/us-japan-nuclear-fusion>

Key contracts awarded in UK fusion programme

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/articles/key-contracts-awarded-in-uk-fusion-programme>

£45M for the UK's first AI supercomputer to accelerate fusion energy

<https://www.niauk.org/45m-for-the-uks-first-ai-supercomputer-to-accelerate-fusion-energy/>

Firms appointed to build fusion power plant

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd6z8l4yz75o>

In conversation with Prof Xavier Garbet: Driving fusion energy development

<https://www.ntu.edu.sg/giving/news-and-stories/detail/in-conversation-with-prof-xavier-garbet>

NIA Welcomes the Government's Fusion Strategy

<https://www.niauk.org/nia-welcomes-the-governments-fusion-strategy/>

RIC panel discusses pathway to fusion commercialization

<https://www.ans.org/news/article-7846/ric-panel-discusses-pathway-to-fusion-commercialization/>

ILIOS appointment speeds delivery of STEP Fusion at West Burton

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ilios-appointment-speeds-delivery-of-step-fusion-at-west-burton>

The invisible technology that could finally make commercial fusion possible

https://www.futura-sciences.com/en/the-invisible-technology-that-could-finally-make-commercial-fusion-possible_27851/

UKAEA-Eni Tritium Loop Facility expands international partnership

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukaea-eni-tritium-loop-facility-expands-international-partnership>

Argonne receives DOE funding to advance AI for science

<https://www.anl.gov/article/argonne-receives-doe-funding-to-advance-ai-for-science>

DOE launches UPRISE to boost nuclear capacity

<https://www.ans.org/news/article-7841/doe-launches-uprise-to-boost-nuclear-capacity/>

French nuclear industry stakeholders welcome the outcomes of the fifth Nuclear Policy Council (CPN)

<https://www.cea.fr/english/Pages/News/french-nuclear-industry-stakeholders-outcomes--welcome-nuclear-policy-council.aspx>

Global Leaders Affirm Central Role for Nuclear at 2026 Nuclear Energy Summit

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/global-leaders-affirm-central-role-for-nuclear-at-2026-nuclear-energy-summit>

French ministerial council reiterates need for nuclear revival

<https://world-nuclear-news.org/articles/french-ministerial-council-reiterates-need-for-nuclear-revival>

Andromeda's vanishing star

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41567-026-03235-1>

Aalo Atomics discusses the road ahead

<https://www.ans.org/news/2026-03-12/article-7838/aalo-atomics-discusses-the-road-ahead/>

EDF launches global nuclear investment and financing advisory board

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/articles/edf-launches-global-nuclear-investment-and-financing-advisory-board>

Webinar highlights Gen IV reactors

<https://www.ans.org/news/article-7843/webinar-highlights-gen-iv-reactors/>

Funding boost for French SMRs

<https://www.neimagazine.com/news/funding-boost-for-french-smrs/>

Cambridge Atomworks Sign Agreement with Mott MacDonald for Microreactor Technology

<https://www.niauk.org/cambridge-atomworks-sign-agreement-with-mott-macdonald-for-microreactor-technology/>

Reeves announces push for tech sovereignty with £2.5m for AI and quantum

<https://www.computing.co.uk/news/2026/government/reeves-ai-quantum-sovereignty-funding-boost>

FYI – FUSION NEWS/ALERTS

Infrastructure work under way for Namaru uranium deposit

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/articles/infrastructure-work-begins-for-namaru-uranium-deposit>

Two major skills programmes secured to train UK's next generation of nuclear scientists & engineers

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/2026/two-major-skills-programmes-secured-to-train-uks-next-generation-of-nuclear-scientists-engineers>

University leads programme to train next generation of nuclear scientists

<https://www.york.ac.uk/news-and-events/news/2026/quality/training-next-generation-nuclear-scientists/>

£9.6M SATURN-2 programme launched to deliver the UK's next generation of nuclear experts

<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/about/news/96m-saturn-2-programme-launched-to-deliver-the-uks-next-generation-of-nuclear-experts/>

Lancaster to deliver a new generation of UK nuclear engineers, scientists and researchers

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/news/lancaster-to-deliver-a-new-generation-of-uk-nuclear-engineers-scientists-and-researchers>

Recent Peer-Reviewed Articles of Interest

Kinetic Simulation of Laser Plasma Instabilities Including Collisional Effects on Sub-Nanosecond Timescales

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6587/ae51c0>

Geometric instability of the quasi-periodic plasma perturbations model

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1209/0295-5075/ae528e>

First field test of a novel optical gas analyzer in the exhaust of Wendelstein 7-X

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6587/ae52b0>

[Of Interest]

Are nuclear power plants the key to powering our digital world?

<https://www.anl.gov/article/are-nuclear-power-plants-the-key-to-powering-our-digital-world>

Celebrating 100 years of physics at Tsinghua University

<https://physicsworld.com/a/celebrating-100-years-of-physics-at-tsinghua-university/>

Inside the world's particle-physics labs: Global Physics Photowalk 2025 winners revealed

<https://physicsworld.com/a/inside-the-worlds-particle-physics-labs-global-physics-photowalk-2025-winners-revealed/>