

# Importance of InnoTrans highlighted by BCRRE

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Professor Clive Roberts, head of the School of Engineering at the University of Birmingham, has confirmed that the **Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education** (BCRRE) has signed agreements with various organisations at the InnoTrans fair in Berlin this week.

Speaking on 21 September, he said: “Obviously this is the place to be and it’s important for us, we work very internationally, we’re hosting a dinner at the [British] Embassy and over 100 people are coming to that, and all continents are represented it apart from Antarctica.

“So being here is important to keep all those relationships alive and going. In particular, this week, while we’re here we’re signing an agreement with Saudi Arabian (SAR), around education and research. We’ve been doing work with them, but it’s now becoming a more formal agreement. That’s quite a nice step.” He said that the University of Birmingham now has a campus in Dubai and that some activity will happen there, and the rest in Birmingham.

He also highlighted the recent agreement signed between the university and the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE), announced on 20 September. “They’re a centre of excellence in testing and validation, which will obviously do some testing, but actually it will really look at the science of testing and how we can do earlier compliance in big projects.

“So how you do that integration validation testing piece across projects, and that’s really interesting for us.”