

Academic–Industry Matchmaking (AIM) Day for Extended Reality and Trust, Identity, Privacy, Security

7 May 2026 | etc.venues Chancery Lane, London

Navigating Trust, Identity, Privacy, Safety, & Security in the Convergence Era

Call for organisations to join AIM Day 2026

About the Event

SPRITE+ AIM Day connects industry innovators and academic experts to explore how emerging Extended and Virtual Reality technologies intersect with Trust, Identity, Privacy, Safety, and Security.

This is your opportunity to shape the next wave of secure and trusted immersive technologies, find academic partners to solve your R&D challenges, and access dedicated SPRITE+ collaboration funding.

Why Attend?

- **Present your organisation's challenges** and explore tailored academic secondment partnerships.
- **Connect with leading researchers** in cybersecurity, privacy, online safety, and XR innovation.
- **Access SPRITE+ funding** for short-term collaborative research projects – up to £10,000* per collaboration
- **Discover new talent** through SPRITE+-funded PhD placements.
- **Expand your innovation network** across public, private, and academic sectors.

How It Works

- **Reverse-pitches** from organisations presenting their innovation and research challenges at the intersection of **Extended and Virtual Reality and Trust, Identity, Privacy, Safety, and Security**.
- **Structured matchmaking meetings** to explore collaboration opportunities between academics and organisations.
- **Networking sessions** to build partnerships and identify research alignment.
- **Funding opportunities** for projects that address real-world challenges at the intersection of Extended Reality and Trust, Identity, Privacy, Security.



SPRITE+ Project Team, Humanities Bridgeford Street, University of Manchester, Oxford Road M13 9P



Funding Opportunities

SPRITE+ offers funding for:

1. **Academic Secondments** within your organisation
 - Up to £10,000 each: partnerships between academics and non-academic organisations.
 - Typical duration: 4–6 weeks secondments with potential for follow-on projects.
 - Travel & subsistence or academic buyout time.
 - Matched partners submit a **short proposal** after the event, and **receive a decision quickly**.
2. Funding for selected **PhD placements** within your organisation - **up to £3,000** per PhD placement
3. Funding for exploratory **post-event visits** between Expert Fellows and organisations. *The funding covers reasonable expenses associated with one UK round-trip and, if necessary, 1 night accommodation costs. Visits must take place by 31st July 2026.*

Get Involved

Attendance is **free** for industry and public-sector organisations.

Register via: [SPRITE+ AIM Day 2026 Registration](#)

Contact

- Learn more about SPRITE+ AIM Day 2026 [here](#)
- Event Enquiries: Claire Spencer – claire.spencer@manchester.ac.uk
- Partnership Enquiries: spriteplus@manchester.ac.uk



SPRITE+ Project Team, Humanities Bridgeford Street, University of Manchester, Oxford Road M13 9P

