



Speaker Profile



Professor David Knowles FREng, FIMMM, CEng joined the [Henry Royce Institute](#) as its CEO in early 2019, bringing with him a wealth of experience from senior roles in both academia and industry in the areas of materials and structural integrity.

David is particularly experienced in leading the collaboration between higher education and industry, to accelerate energy sector-related research, knowledge transfer and implementation. He has led the development of the [National Materials Innovation Strategy](#); now been embedded into the [UK Modern Industrial Strategy](#) and works closely with the Department of Innovation, Science and Technology, particularly around policy related to materials science innovation.

Through his career he has lead materials research at Shell Global Solutions, served as CTO at Quest Integrity (operating throughout Australasia and SE Asia), been a company Fellow in structural integrity at Atkins and been a senior lecturer at Cambridge University; collaborating with Rolls-Royce as Assistant Director of their Ni-alloy UTC.

In recent years David has led industrial projects related to design and assessment of renewable energy offshore structures, oil and gas and nuclear plant. He holds and participates in several EPSRC/Innovate/industrial grants and is the Principal Investigator on '[SINDRI Prosperity Partnership](#)' which is developing cutting-edge digital technology for nuclear plant design and assessment.

Summit session:

Towards building shared definitions, data infrastructure & methodologies

Title:

TBC

Sustainable Polymers in Liquid Formulation Summit 2026

22 October 2026 | London, UK

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