Intel Joins Farset Labs to Collaborate with the Local Technology Community

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Intel has become a corporate member of Farset Labs, the Belfast hackerspace. Intel hopes that supporting Farset Labs will help to build close relationships with the local technology community and open opportunities to collaborate on innovative projects. Similarly, Farset Labs is keen to act as a link between the industrial sector and its member-base of makers and technology geeks. Partnering with a company that is widely regarded as one of the world’s leaders in innovation is a big step in the development of the non-profit hackerspace.

Corporate membership allows some of Intel’s staff to use the hackerspace, based in Weaver’s Court in Belfast, for working on technical projects, mixing and collaborating with individual members, and hosting events. There is a successful history of companies integrating with, and providing staff access to, external technology workshops in other countries. In the US particularly, new products and companies have been launched from ideas developed in hackerspaces there, and partnering companies have reported major increases in innovation metrics such as the filing of new patents.

Since Intel acquired the Belfast-headquartered software company Aepona in April 2013, the company has been seeking to enrich its affiliation with external technology workers and graduates. Joining Farset Labs is a public commitment to this cause. Michael Black, General Manager Intel Belfast said “Intel strongly believes in the importance of supporting technology and innovation, and there is already lots of discussion and excitement from individuals who are keen to share knowledge with the Farset community and to work together with them to turn ideas into prototypes and products.”

Ben Bland, a director of Farset Labs, said “There have never before been better prospects for anyone with the courage to be innovative and entrepreneurial. Intel has a rare history of repeated success through innovation. Having Intel as our new corporate member gives all our members an opportunity for hands-on access to the company’s extraordinary drive, expertise and resources.”

Farset Labs and Intel are developing plans for events and projects throughout 2014.

Notes for Editors

**About Intel**

Intel is a world leader in computing innovation. The company designs and builds the essential technologies that serve as the foundation for the world’s computing devices.

Additional information about Intel is available at www.intel.ie or follow us on Twitter - @Intel\_IRL

**About Farset Labs**

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* Contact: [admin@farsetlabs.org.uk](mailto:admin@farsetlabs.org.uk)
* Connect: <http://twitter.com/FarsetLabs> // <http://www.facebook.com/FarsetLabs>

Farset Labs is a [hackerspace](http://hackerspaces.org/wiki/) based in Belfast that opened its doors in April 2012. It is a shared facility for creative and technological experimentation and coworking, as well as a popular event venue. The facility is open to anyone interested in tinkering and welcomes people from all walks of life to use its space, attend events, and get involved with the maker community in northern ireland.

**Definition of “Hackerspace”**

“Community-operated physical places, where people can meet and work on their projects” (source: [hackerspaces.org/wiki](http://hackerspaces.org/wiki/)).

### Media Assets

* Attached photos of Farset Labs:
* *FLabs\_EventSpace\_001\_Med.jpg* – A Technology workshop in the Farset Labs event space.
* *FLabs\_CoWorking\_001\_Med.jpg* – Coworking space at Farset Labs.
* More photos, logos, etc. available on respective company websites.