



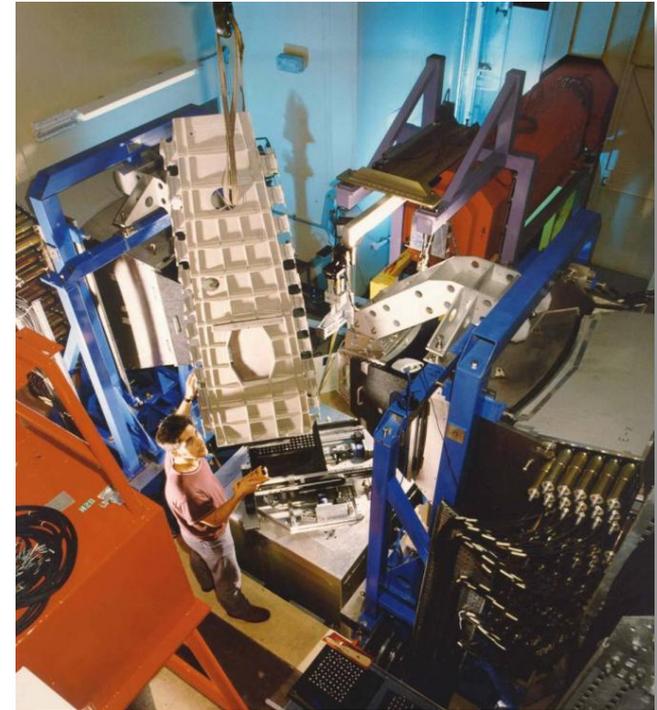
# ICRI 2014 – Session 5 The Way Forward

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# Why research infrastructures?

- Broad consensus that future competitiveness in a globalising knowledge economy depends on research capability
- Research capability requires
  - Investment in higher education and research institutions
  - Access to first class research infrastructures
- Research Infrastructures are
  - Intellectual hubs, not (just) big machines or big datasets
  - Focal points for innovation ecosystems



STFC's Science and Innovation Campuses at Harwell and Daresbury are home to 230 enterprises and 5,500 jobs



# International perspective

- Increasing consensus on need for global cooperation in research infrastructures because
  - Limited investment funds available
  - Increasing level of infrastructure investments needed to remain at the cutting edge
  - Science communities are increasingly globalised
  - Problems require broad data sharing and networking – move from national RIs to national nodes of distributed RIs
- Various initiatives are in place including ESFRI at European level and GSO at global level

# Some lessons learned so far

- agree goals up front
- keep a tight list
  - ESFRI roadmap has proved too extensive, next update will be shorter
- need to have an efficient process
  - both GSO and GSF have found it hard to go from ‘talking’ to ‘doing’
- international collaboration is much more natural for some partners and science fields than others
- need for variable geometry
  - each nation needs to maintain capability to make its own decisions