

Does your old database hold key information?

**BUSINESS** performance specialist Budgeting Solutions is staging a one-day finance forum for small and medium-sized businesses.

The aim of the event is to show firms just how much valuable business information they have locked away in old spreadsheets, and how they can access it.

Paul Livingston, a director with Budgeting Solutions, said the Finance Forum will be a practical event to strip away the mystery and fear surrounding business intelligence and business analytics software.

Gary Simon, managing editor of the online Financial Systems News network will give a speech followed by an insight into business intelligence trends delivered by Mark Riddle of the global IBM Corporation.

The one-day event will include business performance software demonstrations together with practical working accounts from customers who have invested in the software solution process.

The event is being held at the Etrington Park Hotel, Stratford upon Avon on June 26th.

Anyone wishing to attend the event should get in touch with Amanda Gibson, Amanda.gibson@budgetingsolutions.co.uk or call 0115 853 2863. Detail of the event is online at [www.budgetingsolutions.co.uk/news/events/finance-forum-2014/](http://www.budgetingsolutions.co.uk/news/events/finance-forum-2014/)



#### Experts:

Scientific Laboratory Supplies show pre-Conference dinner was held at East Midlands Conference Centre on May 13th 2014. Pictured are (left-to-right): Vivienne Parry OBE, David Browning, Peter Chapman, Peter Lister and Rebecca Quine

## Conference reflects city status as centre of scientific expertise

By Richard Baker

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HUNDREDS of people will converge on Nottingham today as the science industry comes together for an annual conference in the city.

The event has been organised by Wilford-based Scientific Laboratory Supplies (SLS), the business behind everything from petri dishes to fume cabinets used by science firms and research laboratories.

It will see visitors from 17 different countries come to the city in what amounts to one of the biggest scientific gatherings in the city for years.

Bosses at SLS say the numbers of people coming to the event reflects Nottingham's status as a national centre for scientific expertise.

Peter Lister, the firm's operations director, said: "We run this event every two years, and this is now the

fourth time that we have hosted it.

"Nottingham's status as a city of science is one of the main reasons it's so successful and we see it as an opportunity for visitors to learn more both about us as a company and Nottingham as a place to do business."

The SLS Show and Royal Society of Chemistry Conference is centred on the East Midlands Conference Centre.

People began to gather for the event on Sunday, when SLS hosted international guests at Nottingham Castle. They visited local laboratories on Monday, and last night there was a gala dinner for delegates at the De Vere Orchard Hotel.

Besides exhibits of the products which SLS supplies to its clients, today's RSC show will include a series of talks about the latest developments in science technology and innovation.

It is due to be hosted by Vivienne Parry OBE, the science writer and broadcaster.

SLS employs 150 people, 80 of them based at its operational headquarters at Wilford Industrial estate.

The firm's turnover has risen from £20m to £35m over the past four years. It has doubled its export trade

**"Nottingham's status as a city of science is one of the main reasons it's so successful"**

Peter Lister

in the last two years and enjoys a particularly strong presence in Nigeria.

Over 20 Nigerian guests were due to fly in for the show including the vice-chancellors of the University of Ilorin, Landmark

University and Federal State University as well as the deputy vice chancellor of the University of Lagos.

Together with senior research colleagues, they will be in Nottingham to learn more about the UK's success in commercialising medical and pharmaceutical R&D.

Noel Connolly, international sales manager for SLS, has spent considerable time in Nigeria building relations with the leading universities and Government.

He said: "There is enormous potential to work with our Nigerian colleagues by providing the infrastructure and equipment they need to build their life science capabilities, especially in the agricultural, veterinary and medical fields. Nottingham attracts a significant number of Nigerian Masters and PhD students, so through our African and Nottingham offices we have a role in helping maintain relations."

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