

# EUROPEAN ELECTRONIQUE BELIEVES THE ACADEMIES BILL WILL PLAY TO THE ICT COMPANY'S STRENGTHS

**THE COALITION government has announced the expansion of the Academy programme – a move that has been received with enthusiasm by many technology companies operating in the SME market, which found entry into the BSF programme challenging and cost prohibitive.**

Yolanta Gill, CEO of European Electronique, a leading technology company commented: "Despite huge investment and an exceptional track record as a medium-sized, privately owned company, we found breaking into the BSF programme challenging as it appeared to be designed for much larger players.

"We were pleased to hear that the academy projects we recently won are not going to be affected and, in fact, as a leader in the Academy programme, we believe the changes to BSF programme now present a great

opportunity for us.

"The introduction of the Academies Bill will play to our strengths and, despite worsening economic predictions, 2010 holds a bright future for European Electronique. We are heading for the busiest summer ever with a significant amount of large ICT projects to be delivered to Academies, One School Pathfinders and FE colleges."

Included in this list is a number of federations such as Melton Mowbray and the Vale of Belvoir Schools in Leicestershire, Priory Federation of Academies Trust in Lincoln, the New Line Learning Academies' Federation Trust in Maidstone and Academies Enterprise Trust in Essex.

To this list European Electronique adds One School Path Finder projects such as Bexhill High School, Richmond School and Filton High School; Academies such as Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, Open Academy, Islington Academy, South Wolverhampton



**Yolanta Gill, CEO of European Electronique.**

and Bilston Academy and further education colleges including Sir John Deane College, Suffolk One 16-19 Learning Centre and Basingstoke College of Technology.

European Electronique's latest success and source of pride is their win of the Sir Robert Woodard Academy which forms part of the Woodard Schools group. With forty schools throughout England and Wales, the group has the experience and

knowledge of running highly successful, well-respected schools, set within a Christian context of care and support, since it was founded in 1847.

The company also welcomes government plans to invest more into further education and believes that with their track record in FE, they are well positioned to deliver value for money into this market.

So what effects are the proposed cuts in public sector spending going to have on the IT market? Yolanta Gill commented: "We eagerly await the government spending review due to be released in October. We are, however, encouraged by the letter despatched recently to Michael Gove by NAACE supported by a number of education organisations which stated 'We seek assurances from you that the new government recognises the importance of ICT to learning, to learners, to management, and to the overall success of the whole education system'."