Interactive Visits

Interactive Visits provide clients of the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) with up to 20 hours of access to the equipment, facilities, and expertise of a Technology Access Centre (TAC) to solve a specific business or technical challenge. Potential Interactive Visits include:

- Providing access to cutting-edge technology a company doesn’t have in-house;
- Assessing new technologies to improve productivity;
- Guiding the selection of specialized technical equipment;
- Assisting the implementation of a new technology, and
- Providing market and business/competitive intelligence.

The Process

NRC IRAP

- Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA) determines that client is suitable for an Interactive Visit.
- ITA sends client Interactive Visit request form.

TAC

- Refers companies that are interested in an Interactive Visit, but not NRC IRAP clients, to NRC IRAP at 1-877-994-4727 for screening, and connection to ITA if eligible.

CLIENT

- Following referral by their ITA, the client completes the request for the Interactive Visit via the Tech-Access Canada online portal https://portal.tech-access.ca/.
- Request is sent to the TAC, with copies to ITA, Interactive Visit program Coordinating ITA, and Tech-Access Canada.
- If client does not know which TAC to work with, Tech-Access Canada will facilitate a connection.

TECH-ACCESS CANADA

- Confirms availability of budget to the TAC.

TAC

- Provides a proposal and Statement of Work for client approval, copying the ITA. The proposal will include:
  - Plan of work and assistance they will provide;
  - Name and/or role of the expert(s) working on the project;
  - Approximate number of hours required.

CLIENT

- Approves Statement of Work for Interactive Visit.
- Pays $250 upfront fee invoiced by the TAC. This must be paid prior to any work commencing.

INTERACTIVE VISIT

- Can take place at the TAC or the client’s site. In all cases the ITA is invited to participate.
- TAC provides final project report to the client, copying the ITA.
- Interactive Visit will be completed within 90 days of TAC receiving the $250 payment from the client.
- Client completes online satisfaction survey from Tech-Access Canada and IRAP.
- TAC invoices Tech-Access Canada for Interactive Visit.

Learn more about the TACs at MeetTheTACs.ca

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