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sector overview

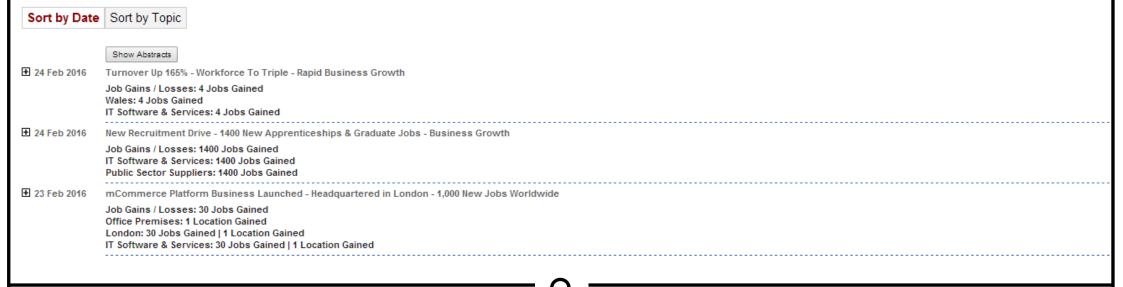
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The UK IT software and services industry has almost tripled in less than twenty years, with 743,000 people now employed, up from 272,000 in 1997.

The industry includes software development, software engineering, IT recruiters and trainers, and IT consultancies. There are 50,000 businesses in the industry, of which 45% employ ten or fewer staff. Only 1,700 IT software and services firms generate turnover of £1m.

The IT software and services industry has increased employment by 2% since 2011. These new jobs have not been confined to London and the South East. Significant numbers are also employed in the East, the North West and the East Midlands. Growth is also expected in the North East and Yorkshire over the next twelve months.

This growth is a result, in part, of the industry's position as a world leader. The UK tops the list of EU ICT hotspots, thanks to its unique mix of universities, research centres and funding opportunities. Growth has also been encouraged by the rise of outsourcing, mobile technology and increased connectivity.



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