

Paris, 08 November 2021



EIT Manufacturing drives innovation in France

More than 100 members of the top French manufacturing corporations had a glimpse into the future at “Industrie du Futur”, organised in Paris today by EIT Manufacturing West and CEA List. With this event, EIT Manufacturing reinforced its extensive network in France composed by corporate leaders, academic and research institutions, startups, and SMEs – with the goal of driving innovation in the country.

The conference, held in the École Polytechnique, is in keeping with EIT Manufacturing's mission of making Europe the world leader in innovative manufacturing, with a more competitive and sustainable industry. EIT Manufacturing is an innovation community supported by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union.

Distinguished speakers included Thomas Courbe, head of France’s Directorate General of Entreprises, and Frédéric Sanchez, President of “Solutions Industrie du Futur”. Demonstrations of innovative projects in the field of automatisisation and robotics were provided by outstanding companies such as FIVES, ESI Group, Tridimeo and COMAU, among others.

Frédéric Sanchez, Président Directeur Général Fives groupe, commented: “I welcome the excellent collaboration of the « Industry of the Future Solutions » Sector with EIT Manufacturing around this event. It should give more visibility to the French offer, in particular through our industry of the future showcases. I hope it will thus make it possible to strengthen the European partnerships on smart manufacturing that EIT Manufacturing promotes in the interest of a strong European industry.”

Antoni Pijoan, Managing Director EIT Manufacturing West, presented an overview of EIT Manufacturing, which has more than 65 members across Europe, saying: “France is among the Top 10 Manufacturing Countries in the World and therefore a key market for EIT Manufacturing, which is in fact headquartered in Paris-Saclay. We currently have eight active members in France from large corporations to RTOs and Universities. Our ambition is continue growing by adding more corporations, but also tech-based SMEs and Start-ups to our community, with an aim to turn Europe into a ‘Global manufacturing innovation leader’”.

Joël Rosenberg, Head of Business Development for France, EIT Manufacturing West said “I am proud and happy to hold the EIT Manufacturing event on 8 November in Saclay. We brought together a community of manufacturers who are developing their production tools using new technologies. It was a great day for Industry.”

Alexandre Bounouh, Director of CEA-List, added: “The development of a network of technology suppliers plays a major role in the industrial value chain. A technological research institute such as CEA-List makes it possible to support technology transfer and to orchestrate the industrial ecosystem through innovative concepts such as FactoryLab. From 2022, we will also offer companies access to “Lab2Fab” experimental

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platforms in order to validate technological solutions under conditions that are as close as possible to real conditions in an industrial setting.”

EIT Manufacturing in France

EIT Manufacturing West is based in San Sebastian (Spain) and manages the activities of the organisation in France, Spain and Portugal. The geographical region of Co-Location Centre (CLC) West is one of the most heavily industrialised sections of Europe, but it is also characterised by a high degree of diversity. France is the third largest manufacturer in the EU-27 after Germany and Italy. Together with those countries, France is part of the trilateral cooperation agreement “Industrie 4.0”, which is designed to promote the digitalisation of the manufacturing industry.

EIT Manufacturing West currently has 15 members, 8 of them in France: Arts et Métiers Paris Tech (ENSAM University), Ecole Centrale de Nantes, Grenoble INP (Grenoble Alpes University), CEA, CT-IPC, Fives Group, ESI Group and the industrial organisation Aerospace Valley, as well as several companies already participating in its activities. At the European level, EIT Manufacturing has four other CLCs, with offices in Germany, Sweden, Austria and Italy, and more than 65 Partner organisations, including universities, research institutes and businesses.

About the EIT and EIT Manufacturing

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) strengthens Europe’s ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. The EIT is an EU body which is an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The Institute supports the development of dynamic pan-European partnerships – EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities – among leading companies, research labs and universities.

EIT Manufacturing is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. It is one of eight innovation communities within EIT. The others are EIT Climate-KIC, EIT Digital, EIT Food, EIT Health, EIT InnoEnergy, EIT Raw Materials, and EIT Urban Mobility. EIT Manufacturing’s main goal is to bring European stakeholders focused on manufacturing together in innovation ecosystems that add unique value to European products, processes and services and inspire the creation of globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing. EIT Manufacturing brings together more than 65 organisations (universities, research institutes and business).

About EIT Manufacturing West

EIT Manufacturing West, S.L. is one of the five Co-Location Centers (CLC) of EIT Manufacturing. Located in San Sebastian, in Northern Spain, CLC West serves three European countries: France, Portugal and Spain, with the latter two part of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS). EIT Manufacturing CLC West works in close partnership with its 15 full members from industry, research and academia. These members include Arts et Métiers Paris Tech (ENSAM University), Ecole Centrale de Nantes, Grenoble INP (Grenoble Alpes University); RTOs: CEA, CT-IPC, INESC-TEC, Tecnalia, Manufacturing Alliance; as well as industrial companies: Fives Group, ESI Group, Sonae, Aernnova and ITP Aero; and the industrial organisations Aerospace Valley and Mondragon Corporation. CLC West also works in collaboration with its network partners: EMC2 (France), Mobinov and Produtech (Portugal), Adegi, AFM and AIN (Spain), and its growing network of activity partners.

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EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!

Contact Details

Ana Bautista, Communication Manager, EIT Manufacturing CLC West
ana.bautista@eitmanufacturing.eu
Mobile : +34. 636 521013