

Welcome to the seventh edition of Impact, the newsletter from the European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA) focusing on the work of projects launched under the EU’s research and innovation programme for advanced manufacturing – ‘Factories of the Future’.

In this edition we are pleased to announce that the 2018 Factories of the Future call is underway. As usual EFFRA has published all of the key information and is supporting brokerage online through the Innovation Portal.

We invite you to save the date for two interesting events which will both take place in February next year – a ConnectedFactories dissemination event (5 & 6 February) and Factories of the Future & the Automotive Sector (28 February).

In this edition we also bring you news on the latest developments in the ConnectedFactories, ReconCell and CREMA projects while also introducing the L4MS project.

On the events front, presentations from the ManuFuture 2017 conference have been published as have presentations and a summary report from the Digital Manufacturing Platforms for Connected Smart Factories workshop.

If you have project news you wish to share you can submit it to: info@effra.eu.

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Subscribing to Impact

Impact is available to anyone with an interest in factories of the future and is registered on the EFFRA Innovation Portal.



If you have colleagues/contacts who are interested in receiving this newsletter direct them to the EFFRA Innovation Portal and they will receive our next edition direct into their mailbox.

Access to the EFFRA Innovation Portal and subscription to this newsletter is free.

[Innovation Portal](#)

Factories of the Future Call 2018 Officially Open

The 2018 Factories of the Future (FoF) call is officially open. On 27 October, the Commissioner for Research, Mr. Carlos Moedas, formally announced the publication of the work programme while the call officially opened on 31 October.

As members will be aware the draft work programmes for the DG Research-supported and DG Connect-supported calls were published in advance of the Industrial Innovation Info Days. While major changes to the call texts are not anticipated, members are advised to consult the final version of the work programmes carefully.

- Deadline for DT-FoF call topics: 22 February 2018
- Deadline for DT-ICT call topic: 17 April 2018

Factories of the Future call 2018:

- DT-FOF-01-2018: Skills needed for new Manufacturing jobs
- DT-FOF-02-2018: Effective Industrial Human-Robot Collaboration
- DT-FOF-03-2018: Innovative manufacturing of opto-electrical parts
- DT-FOF-04-2018: Pilot lines for metal Additive Manufacturing
- DT-ICT-07-2018: Digital Manufacturing Platforms for Connected Smart Factories

A separate call for a digital 'plug and produce' online equipment platform will open on 28 November:

- DT-NMBP-20-2018: A digital 'plug and produce' online equipment platform for manufacturing (IA)

Presentations made during the Industrial Innovation Info days concerning the 2018 & 2019 call topics are now all online:

Information on the 2019 and 2020 call topics can also be found in the work programmes (see links below).

[Work Programme 2018 – 2020 \(NMPB\)](#) | [Work Programme 2018 – 2020 \(ICT\)](#)

[Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#) | [Industrial Innovation Days](#)

Save the Date: 5 & 6 February - ConnectedFactories Dissemination Event



Supported by the European Commission through the Factories of the Future PPP

On 5 and 6 February, EFFRA will host a dissemination event on digital platforms in manufacturing in association with the ConnectedFactories Coordination and Support Action.

The event will focus on the obtained results so far of the projects launched under the FoF-11-2016 call (see www.connectedfactories.eu/project-cluster) and on associated projects. The event will provide an interesting insight in relation to the upcoming calls 'DT-ICT-07-2018-2019: Digital Manufacturing Platforms for Connected Smart Factories'.

Venue: BluePoint Centre, Brussels.

[ConnectedFactories](#)

Save the Date: 28 February - Factories of the Future & the Automotive Sector

EFFRA & ERTRAC will co-host a results workshop – Factories of the Future & the Automotive Sector – on 28 February.

This workshop will focus on the results of projects that address manufacturing in the automotive sector and will provide opportunities for networking between project presenters and participants.

The programme is currently in development however if you would be interested in presenting the outcome of a project, please contact: patrick.kennedy@effra.eu.

Future of Manufacturing Explored at ManuFuture 2017



This year's ManuFuture conference took place on 24 and 25 October. Under the theme 'Moving Up the Value Chain', participants analysed what the 4th industrial revolution means in practice, discussed sustainable manufacturing and circular economy topics, shared experience of collaborative technological innovation in manufacturing through programmes such as Factories of the Future.

There was a strong EFFRA presence in terms of speeches, presentations and participants. Examples from Factories of the Future projects featured in sessions addressing digital industrial platforms, industry 4.0 in practice, digital innovation hubs and collaborative success stories.

650 people participated in the conference with contributions from 80 speakers.

Presentations, video streams from the main plenary room and photos are all available through the link below.

[Conference Material](#)

Workshop on Digital Manufacturing Platforms for Connected Smart Factories: Report & Presentations Published

On 19 October, the DG Connect, in association with EFFRA, held a workshop on digital manufacturing platforms for connected smart factories.

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss what specific platforms would need to be addressed, developed and piloted at EU level in the near future. During the workshop

previous and ongoing activities in this area will also be considered, as well as the opportunities for future development.

The findings of the workshop have been published online as have the workshop presentations.

[Report](#) | [Presentations](#)

ReconCell Call for Experiments Open



Factories of the Future project ReconCell's call for experiment proposals opened on 1 November (known as an Open Call).

The ReconCell project aims at designing and implementing a new kind of an autonomous robot workcell, which will be attractive not only for large production lines but also for few-of-a-kind production, which often takes place in SMEs. ReconCell project proposes to develop a flexible robotic workcell that will allow very short, self-adaptable and affordable changeovers under the conditions demanded and based on end-user needs.

ReconCell is inviting all manufacturing SMEs to apply for the Open Call. All SMEs that meet EU criteria for participation in the project will be evaluated. The main evaluation criteria will be quality and efficiency of implementation as well as potential industrial impact. The timeframe for the experiment will be up to 3 months, with a financial framework of up to € 85,000 allocated for supporting the SME's participation in each experiment.

An ideal experiment should match the following criteria:

- Product needs to be assembled in reconfigurable/ modular way
- All components of the product need to be rigid
- Assembly should make use of components and current set-up of ReconCell
- Assembly sequence should not involve more than 5 parts
- Should not replicate existing experiments

The deadline for submissions is 31 January 2018.

[Further Information](#) | [ReconCell](#)

News from ConnectedFactories



Supported by the European Commission through the Factories of the Future PPP

Activities within the EFFRA-coordinated ConnectedFactories project have ramped up in the last two months. We are pleased to present the most recent activities accompanied by public material:

- National/Regional Workshops – Report Published

A report on the national and regional ConnectedFactories workshops that have taken place to date, is now available online. ConnectedFactories organises national and regional workshops in order to focus on requirements from the field in regard to the digitisation of manufacturing in general and the deployment of digital platforms for manufacturing in particular.

[Download Report](#)

In 2018 and 2019, additional workshops will be organised on national and regional level in order to discuss and fine-tune the pathways to the deployment of digital platforms for manufacturing.

- Scenario-Building Workshop – Presentations Available

ConnectedFactories held a scenario-building workshop on 28 September. The aim of the workshop was to discuss draft visions and explore possible pathways while identifying practical implications. Presentations from the workshop are publicly available.

[View Presentations](#)

Furthermore, a revised version of the 'personas', as discussed in the workshop, will be dispatched for comments. These personas are the basis of the draft scenarios and pathways which will contribute to the next wave of national and regional workshops that are planned in the second half of 2018.

- Project Information Sharing & Analysis

Project information sharing, and analysis are an important element of ConnectedFactories. Activities with regards to sharing and analysis are increasing as the ConnectedFactories project evolves.

The [EFFRA Innovation Portal](#) supports the initial public sharing of information among projects and interested stakeholders. Project coordinators, dissemination and exploitation managers are invited to describe their project according to the [digital mapping framework](#).

Please see [this presentation](#) with the basic information on how this works. Should you have questions about this process and its objectives, then please don't hesitate to [get back to us](#).

ConnectedFactories aims to establish a structured overview of available and upcoming technological approaches and best practices. The project identifies present and future needs, as well as challenges, of the manufacturing industries. The project is exploring pathways to the digital integration and interoperability of manufacturing systems and processes (“future visions”).

Discover more about ConnectedFactories:

www.connectedfactories.eu/aboutconnectedfactories

Introducing the L4MS Project - Logistics for Manufacturing SMEs



Logistics for Manufacturing SMEs (L4MS) is a new Factories of the Future project participating in the I4MS initiative.

The ambition of L4MS is to reduce the installation cost and time of mobile robots by a factor of 10. It will enable inexpensive deployment of small and flexible logistics solutions requiring no infrastructure change, no production downtime and no in-house expertise. The investment in logistics automation will become extremely attractive for European manufacturing SMEs and Mid-Caps. The use of mobile robots will not only

automate the logistics (50% of the production cost) but will also provide unprecedented flexibility on the factory floor for batch production.

The L4MS project aims to deliver an open industrial IoT platform called OPIL (Open Platform for Innovations in Logistics) together with a 3D simulator to completely virtualize the intra-factory logistics automation and drastically accelerate the innovation process in this area.

[L4MS](#)

CREMA Project Event: Pragmatically Stepping into the Twinned Digital World of 4IR



Factories of the Future project CREMA will co-host an industry 4.0-centred workshop *Pragmatically Stepping into the Twinned Digital World of 4IR* on 16 November (Bridgend, UK).

This event will showcase products and services designed to demonstrate the benefits of cutting-edge concepts of Industry 4.0 such as “Digital Twinning”. These topics are discussed with practical demonstrations to highlight the real implications for businesses who want to adopt the new technology.

Experts will present the latest thinking about deploying Industry 4.0 software toolsets to bring current manufacturing and retail practices in line with modern trends. This will include hands on workshops for you to interact with the technology.

Professionals will be on hand to answer any of your questions, to demystify the technology involved.

[Programme](#) | [Registration](#)

Contact

If you have suggestions, questions or comments concerning this newsletter, contact info@effra.eu.

Disclaimer

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