

## Press Release

### France, Germany and Italy join forces to promote digitising manufacturing

The key digitising manufacturing initiatives of France, Germany and Italy have agreed on a trilateral cooperation to support and strengthen the digitalisation processes of their manufacturing sectors as well as to promote according European efforts. French Alliance Industrie du Futur, German Plattform Industrie 4.0 and Italian initiative Piano Industria 4.0 have developed a shared action plan with several action items and deliverables.

**Torino, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017.** Plattform Industrie 4.0, Alliance Industrie du Futur and Piano Industria 4.0 initiated cooperation talks at a high-level conference on „Digitising Manufacturing in the G20“ in March 2017 in Berlin. Since then the initiatives have developed a shared action plan. Today, the plan has been adopted by the steering committee of the cooperation at its initial meeting in Torino, Italy. Industry, scientists and political experts from the three countries will now work on three core subjects of shared interests: standardisation, engagement of SMEs and testbeds as well as policy support at the European level. First results of the new trilateral cooperation are expected to be presented by the first half of next year.

#### **Core subjects of Cooperation**

The trilateral cooperation focuses on three core subjects of shared interests, which are dealt with in the following three working groups:

1. **Standardisation and reference architectures.** Common standards are crucial for digitising manufacturing. Therefore, the first working group will identify relevant standards, align standardisation activities, work on the harmonization of an administration shell and find ways to integrate SMEs in the field of standardisation. The group will capitalize on the achievements of the French-German joint working group.
2. **SMEs engagement and testbeds.** To make digitalisation more accessible for SMEs, the second working group will map use cases from all three countries and interlink them, diffuse and complete Industry 4.0 scenarios and promote an international network of test-infrastructures.



- 3. Policy support.** Industry needs a favourable environment to efficiently leverage digitalisation. The working group will therefore exchange best practices on policies and programs, and coordinate shared positions of the three countries at the European level and in international forums.

“Joining forces in this trilateral cooperation was the next logical step for staying at the forefront of Industry 4.0. Together, we will concentrate on important topics such as standardisation, SMEs and policy support. The results will be shared with the European Commission and other EU-members”, says Bernd Leukert, member of the Executive Board of SAP SE, and Chairman of the Steering Committee of Plattform Industrie 4.0.

“Beyond our national specificities, Europe represents our common playground for the industry of the future. We need to go fast and collectively: that’s why I am very happy to see that one year after the beginning of our bilateral cooperation with Germany, we launch new ambitious objectives with our Italian partners.”, states Philippe Darmayan, President of the Industry of the future

“The role of SMEs is fundamental for growth and competitiveness of the manufacturing industry in Europe. SMEs need support in order to raise their awareness and their testing capabilities for Industry 4.0 solutions. Through this trilateral agreement, a number of actions specifically addressed to SMES will be undertaken, thus providing the proper environment for their engagement in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.”, says Prof. Marco Taisch from Politecnico Milano, member of the Steering Committee and chair of the Working Group on SMEs engagement and testbeds.



### **About Alliance Industrie du Futur**

*Created in July 2015, Alliance Industrie du Futur brings together professional organizations from industry and digital technology along with academic and technological partners, all rallying around a common ambition: to make France a leader in the world's industrial renewal. Alliance Industrie du Futur is tasked with putting into practice the National Industry of the Future project launched by the French Government in April 2015, in the framework of the organizational overhaul of the New Face of Industry in France. Alliance Industrie du Futur has a particular mandate to support companies, especially SMEs, in the transformation of their business models, their organization, and their design and marketing methods, in a world in which new tools based, for example, on the digital, on additive manufacturing, on new materials and on advanced robotics are bringing down the barriers between industry and services. →[Website](#)*

### **About the Plattform Industrie 4.0**

*Plattform Industrie 4.0 is the central network in Germany to advance digital transformation towards Industrie 4.0. In close cooperation with politics, industry, science, business associations and trade unions, over 300 stakeholders from almost 160 organisations are actively involved in the platform. The platform develops and coordinates information and networking services to raise awareness on Industrie 4.0 solutions among companies and to deploy them on-site. As one of the largest international and national networks, it supports German companies—particularly medium-sized companies—in implementing Industrie 4.0. It provides companies with decisive impulses through examples of company best-practices from across Germany, as well as concrete recommendations for action and test environments. The platform's numerous international co-operations underscore its leading role in international discussions on Industrie 4.0. →[Website](#)*

### **About Piano Industria 4.0**

*In order to boost productivity and accelerate technological upgrading the National plan "Industria 4.0" of the Italian Government is focusing on strategic measures to support innovative investments and empower skills, such as: Super and Hyper amortisation schemes, tax credits on R&D and on profits from intangible and patented assets, strengthening of vocational training, creation of I4.0 Technological Clusters and Industrial PhDs. Moreover, complementary measures being implemented are the establishment of Competence Centers and of a network of Digital Innovation Hubs, Ultra Broadband with a fiber to the factory approach, cooperation on IoT open standards and interoperability, easier access to financing and productivity salary taxation exchange. → [Website](#)*