

Vienna, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH successfully participates in four EIT Manufacturing project consortia

Vienna, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021. In the beginning of 2021, EIT Manufacturing CLC East welcomed a new member as part of the EIT Manufacturing consortium: voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH joined the European network of EIT Manufacturing to boost innovation, digitalisation and green manufacturing in Europe. In its first year on board the EIT Manufacturing network, voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH successfully participates in several project submissions of international consortia supported by EIT Manufacturing.

The manufacturing industry is the key to economic, social and ecological sustainability in Europe and the engine for industrial innovation, job creation and growth of the European society. To foster innovation and technological advancement in the European manufacturing industry and to become the global leader for manufacturing innovation, EIT Manufacturing brings together European stakeholders in the manufacturing industry in an innovation ecosystem. EIT Manufacturing is an innovation community supported by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union.

More than 65 organisations are already part of the EIT Manufacturing consortium, among them leading industrial corporations, highly renowned universities and research and technology organisations (RTO) across Europe. The variety and the multidisciplinary character of the partnerships at EIT Manufacturing are the base for the complementarity and know-how required to meet the growing demands of the European manufacturing industry. Since 2021, voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH based in Vienna enriches their vast network.

**Philipp Horner**, Head of Business Optimization & Circular Economy at voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH about the collaboration with EIT Manufacturing: *„voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH is very proud to be a member of the EIT Manufacturing consortium! The strategic flagships of EIT Manufacturing are perfectly aligned with our mission. As one of the world’s leading supplier of high-performance materials with a unique service network, we support our customers in reaching their ambitious targets in regard to performance and sustainability. The collaboration with the diverse consortium members from all over Europe, be it industry, universities or RTO, gives us the huge opportunity to jointly leverage potentials in the areas of innovation, digitalization and green production.“*

### EIT Manufacturing and voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH – a perfect fit

The voestalpine AG’s High Performance Metals Division focuses on producing and processing high-performance materials and customer-specific services including heat treatment, high-tech surface treatments, and additive manufacturing processes. voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH is the global market leader for tool steel and a leading provider of high-speed steel, valve steel, and other products made of special steels, as well as powder materials, nickel-based alloys, and titanium. The automotive, oil and natural gas exploration, and mechanical engineering industries as well as the consumer goods and aerospace industries are among their most important customer segments.

*“voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH and EIT Manufacturing CLC East fit perfectly together. From the beginning on, they have been involved in the activities of EIT Manufacturing as activity partner, they*

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*joined our matchmaking events and participated in our calls. We are very happy to have voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH as partner in our European community.”, says **Johannes Hunschofsky**, Managing Director of EIT Manufacturing CLC East.*

In the annual Call for Proposals 2022 of EIT Manufacturing, voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH participated in several project submissions as part of international project consortia. Four of their proposals were successfully admitted to the business plan 2022 of EIT Manufacturing. One of the projects will be carried out under the EIT Manufacturing flagship “Flexible production systems for competitive manufacturing”, another one under “Low environmental footprint systems & circular economy for green manufacturing” and two projects are under the scope of the flagship of “Human-machine co-working for socially sustainable manufacturing”.

*“With voestalpine High Performance Metals GmbH, we have a strong partner to tackle the current and future challenges in the manufacturing industry. With their competencies, expertise and network incorporated in our unique and powerful ecosystem of EIT Manufacturing, I see mutual benefits. By combining our strengths, we will work together on our joint vision and the strategic positioning of the European manufacturing industry on a global scale.”, elaborates **Hunschofsky**.*

### Background Information

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 organizations](#) (universities, research institutes and business).

**EIT Manufacturing East GmbH** is one of the five Co-Location Centers (CLC) of EIT Manufacturing, located in the Technology Center Seestadt in Vienna, Austria. CLC East serves twelve countries in Central and Eastern Europe: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia, of which eleven are EIT RIS eligible countries, being considered modest and moderate innovators according to the European Innovation Scoreboard. Therefore, the Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) Pillar Leadership and its eight local Hubs in the CLC East Region are strongly involved in the CLC East network and its activities. CLC East works in close cooperation with its nine full members from industry, research and academia: Atos, the Czech Technical University in Prague, Joanneum Research, Jožef Stefan Institute, LMS – Laboratory for Manufacturing Systems & Automation, Magna, the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, the Technical University Vienna, and voestalpine

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High Performance Metals, and its network partners AM-Austria and the Vienna Business Agency. EIT Manufacturing CLC East is additionally supported by three Austrian Ministries (Federal Ministry Digital and Economic Affairs; Federal Ministry Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology; Federal Ministry Education, Science and Research) as well as the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG).

**EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!**

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