



New open innovation platform and stakeholder dialogue to accelerate European manufacturing innovation

EIT Manufacturing, Europe's largest manufacturing community, has recently launched a social network and open innovation platform, AGORA, to federate innovation across Europe's manufacturing companies. From September 6, the platform will host its first-of-a-kind stakeholder consultation process to collectively define and prioritise the key thematic areas that will help guide its work in supporting the green and digital transformation. The three-month interactive process, Shapeit, will take place on AGORA. On September 9, EIT Manufacturing will organise a Grand Opening webinar launching AGORA and the Shapeit consultation process. EIT Manufacturing is an innovation community supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

Paris, 6 September 2021 – The collective power of the manufacturing community will be harnessed through **Shapeit**, a three-step interactive consultation process, which will run from September 6 to November 8. In the first step, stakeholders will be invited to post and comment on manufacturing challenges, use cases and technologies. In the second step, participants join groups to build out hotspots identified through the initial collection of key manufacturing priorities. Step three involves collectively evaluating the proposed hotspots and voting for those that hold the most potential.

“Shapeit is a unique opportunity to make the voice of all manufacturing organisations heard, also beyond our current partners, create a space for greater cooperation and inspire to solve the key challenges in manufacturing,” said Jean-François Duroch, Innovation Director of EIT Manufacturing. *“By engaging the entire community, we hope to identify thematics that will guide our focus to help drive the much-needed manufacturing innovation to support Europe's green and digital transformation”.*

The consultation process is open to anyone working in the pan-European manufacturing industry, as well as graduate students. The only other pre-requisite is to be a member of AGORA, where **Shapeit** will take place.

AGORA – bringing Europe's manufacturing community together

AGORA is EIT Manufacturing's new social network and open innovation platform, bringing the pan-European manufacturing community together in one place. AGORA aims to contribute to and stimulate manufacturing innovation and debate by providing a secure space for discussion and networking with relevant peers, as well as easy access to all facets of EIT Manufacturing's activities.

“The manufacturing industry is a global base for prosperity and key to Europe's economic, social and environmental sustainability, with more than 2 million manufacturing companies providing over 32 million jobs in Europe,” Klaus Beetz, CEO of EIT Manufacturing said. “With AGORA, we provide an online



meeting point for this community to foster active contributions and collaboration about not only how but also what we manufacture, for a more competitive and sustainable future.”

To mark the occasion of the start of the consultation process, EIT Manufacturing will host a Grand Opening webinar of AGORA and **Shapeit** on September 9, 2021. The webinar is open to everyone and will provide an opportunity to hear about the benefits of joining AGORA, an overview of the services currently available and upcoming on the platform, as well as further information on the consultation process and how to get started.

For webinar registrations to the Grand Opening of AGORA and **Shapeit**, please click here:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZfbmQTbbQWilwR51QX5W4g

For requests to join AGORA and to participate in the **Shapeit** consultation process, please click here:

<https://agora-eitmanufacturing.eu>.

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

EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!

Contact Details

Cristina Carneiro, Communication Director
cristina.carneiro@eitmanufacturing.eu

Christina Bertholdt, Communication Manager
christina.bertholdt@eitmanufacturing.eu

More information at www.eitmanufacturing.eu