EIT Manufacturing Master School

Call for Master Thesis in 2023

Type of action: EIT Manufacturing EDUCATION - EMPOWER
Deadline model: single-stage
Opening date: 6th September 2022
Deadline date: 1st November 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Publication date: 6th September 2022

EIT Manufacturing
Paris | 2022

eitmanufacturing.eu
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1 General Information: EITM Master School outlook

The EIT Manufacturing Master School offers a unique and excellent high education programme, with international and inclusion mindset, to graduate the next generation of Manufacturing Innovators and Entrepreneurs. The Master School programmes merge manufacturing technical and technological aspects with innovation and entrepreneurship teaching, in the context of the global societal challenges, such as circular economy, industrial innovation, sustainability, and so on. The EIT Manufacturing Master School adopts a practical learning by doing approach, through activities at Teaching and Learning Factories, through internships, projects and thesis at industrial premises, and through Innovation and entrepreneurship focused Summer Schools, in order the students to put immediately in practice the new knowledge, gathered in the class, in a real work and research context. The international studies at two different universities and the interaction with the EIT Manufacturing community complement and complete the educational offer.

All EIT Manufacturing Master School programmes allow the students to develop:

- Capability to implement engineering expertise and advanced technologies to create new or improved methods, techniques, products and services in the manufacturing field, in line with the customer target sector and the global societal challenges.

- Transversal skills and capabilities, such as constructive communication, leadership, complex problem setting, problem solving and decision making, to collaborate in international and diverse contexts, to manage projects and teams, to find new solutions and innovate the manufacturing offer.

- Business understanding and entrepreneurship to boost their future careers and to create innovative start-ups.

These capabilities are defined for the Master School programmes directly by the EIT through specific Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs), defined in the next sections.

The EIT Manufacturing Master School Programmes on going in 2022 are:

- People and Robots for Sustainable Work
- Additive Manufacture for Full Flexibility
• Zero-Defect Manufacture for a Circular Economy

• Platforms for Digitalized Value Networks

Students spend one year in a university (ENTRY university) and a second year in another university in a different country (EXIT university). Entry and exit university combinations are available in annex 3. In the final part of the second year students are requested to spend few months in a company (whatever size: large, medium, SME, startup) to run their master thesis, in collaboration with the 2 universities.

At the end of their studies the students receive two degrees directly by the universities (double degree) and the EIT label certificate from EIT Manufacturing, as an international recognition of their high-quality education curriculum.

1.1 Master School partner Universities

The EITM Master School partner Universities public contacts can be found at EIT Manufacturing partners web page: https://eitmanufacturing.eu/partners/

List of those partners is available here below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aalto University (Aalto), Finland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ecole Centrale de Nantes (ECN), France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mondragon Unibertsitatea (MU), Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI), Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI), Switzerland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2 EIT Manufacturing’s flagships

The EIT Manufacturing’s four flagships are:

- Human-machine co-working for socially sustainable manufacturing
- Flexible production systems for competitive manufacturing
- Low environmental footprint systems & circular economy for Green manufacturing
- Digital & collaborative solutions for innovative manufacturing ecosystems

1.3 Overarching Learning Outcome (OLO) for EITM Master School Programmes

EIT Overarching Learning Outcome (OLOs): see table below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EIT OLOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EIT OLO 1 - Making value judgments and sustainability competencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to identify short- and long-term future consequences of plans and decisions from an integrated scientific, ethical and intergenerational perspective and to merge this into a solution-focused approach, moving towards a sustainable society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIT OLO 2 - Entrepreneurship skills and competencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to translate innovations into feasible business solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIT OLO 3 - Creativity skills and competencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to think beyond boundaries and systematically explore and generate new ideas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIT OLO 4 - Innovation skills and competencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The ability to use knowledge, ideas and technology to create new or significantly improved products, services, processes, policies, new business models or jobs.

### EIT OLO 5 - Research skills and competencies

The ability to use cutting-edge research methods, processes and techniques towards new venture creation and growth and to apply these also in cross-disciplinary teams and contexts.

### EIT OLO 6 - Intellectual transforming skills and competencies

The ability to transform practical experiences into research problems and challenges.

### EIT OLO 7 - Leadership skills and competencies

The ability of decision-making and leadership, based on a holistic understanding of the contributions of higher education, research and business to value creation, in limited sized teams and contexts.

In addition to the above, students are requested to develop knowledge and capabilities about digitalization aspects, IPR concepts and ethical conduct of business.

## 2 Master Thesis

To fulfill the degree requirements for the EITM Industrial Master Thesis at EITM Master School, students are required to complete a 30 ECTS (1 ECTS=25 hours, including offline work by the student) credit Industrial research project during the Spring/Summer of 2023 at company premises. The minimum time spent by the student at industrial premises is 15 ECTS, meaning 2,5 months (375 hours in total). The maximum and recommended time spent by the student at industrial premises is 30 ECTS, meaning 5 months (750 hours in total, including time for the thesis documentation preparation).

The student has to be supervised by an industrial mentor/supervisor and by at least one academic member from the exit university. In any case the thesis must be valid also for the entry university of the student, in order to provide the double degree.

The scope and objectives of the thesis project will be defined and agreed in advance of the project commencement by the student(s), the company and the academic supervisor(s). Depending on the number of projects received, either a single student will be assigned or teams of 2-3 members will be formed to work on the proposed project.
The scope of the project should be related, but not limited to, to the fields of Zero-Defect Manufacturing for a Circular Economy, Additive Manufacturing For Full Flexibility, Platforms For Digitalised Value Networks, and People and Robots for Sustainable Work and the application of some aspect of their taught modules: Business information systems, Operations Management, Engineering Decision Support Systems, Marketing Management, Supply Chain Management, Manufacturing Simulation and Robotics, Project Management, Organisation Behaviour, Circular Materials, Data Analytics for Quality Control etc.

The Industrial Master project involves the student(s) coming on site, for a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 30 ECTS, to collect data / make observations, run practical experiments, eventually conducting desk based research and writing the thesis documentation. The thesis is expected to start in early 2023, according to the exit university rules, in order the students to be able to graduate in 2023 graduation rounds. The outcomes can be generally recommendations a physical/virtual prototype, a roadmap for implementation, etc. They will be reported in a final report. The thesis report could be public, according to university needs. For this reason, a specific Non-Disclosure Agreement will be signed by the company and the student, and eventually by the universities as well.

**Participating companies are not requested to pay the students (unless required by national law), but they have in any case the possibility to sponsor a project, like as a paid internship.**

An example of topics undertaken by students in recent years in similar programmes is listed below:

- Implementation of lean six sigma in the Pharmaceutical sector
- Safety stock analysis in the semiconductor industry
- Improving time recording practices
- Quantifying facility expansion opportunity in the frozen food sector
- Takt time analysis for operations optimisation
- The analysis and optimisation of the process used to scan and prepare digital cushion models
- Improving the Supplier Qualification Process using the Six Sigma Approach
- Inventory management analysis in the dairy industry
- Designing a robotic finger for pick and place operations.
- Environmental/sustainability performance assessment of products and processes
• Maintenance planning and optimization
• Supply chain performance assessment
• Lifecycle assessment and carbon footprinting of products and manufacturing and supply chains.
• Data analytics in manufacturing/service operations and supply chains

In order to understand scientific requirements, the participating companies can contact each Master programme coordinator listed here below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EITM Master Programme</th>
<th>Programme Coordinator</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People and Robots for Sustainable Work</td>
<td>Eñaut Muxika, Mondragon university, Spain</td>
<td><a href="mailto:emuxika@mondragon.edu">emuxika@mondragon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additive Manufacture for Full Flexibility</td>
<td>Jouni Partanen, Aalto university, Finland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jouni.partanen@aalto.fi">jouni.partanen@aalto.fi</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero-Defect Manufacture for a Circular Economy</td>
<td>Pezhman Ghadimi, University College of Dublin (UCD), Ireland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pezhman.ghadimi@ucd.ie">pezhman.ghadimi@ucd.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platforms for Digitalized Value Networks</td>
<td>Donatella Corti, SUPSI, Switzerland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:donatella.corti@supsi.ch">donatella.corti@supsi.ch</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.1 Open Call description

The current open call focuses on collecting project proposals by participating companies about the final Master thesis to be done at industrial premises by end of summer 2023, according to university academic year organization. Companies proposing the thesis projects are requested to host the student at their premises and to assign a supervisor to support and monitor the student during the work. The supervisor will keep the contact with the academic supervisor during the master thesis period. The students will be spending time at the university premises as well to do data analysis, report writing, desk research etc.
**Thesis topic:** The thesis topic must be in the context of the 4 Master programmes listed above and linked to manufacturing. The thesis topic must also have a scientific relevance. For more info see section 2.

**Duration:** 30 ECTS – 5 months

**Delivery time:** Thesis project must be delivered by end of summer 2023 according to the academic requirements of EITM Master partners universities. Please note, in UCD thesis should start on early January, in order the final report to be submitted by Mid of May.

**Partnership:** min 1 company. All company sizes are allowed, including startups.
- Thesis projects at multiple sites are allowed;
- Thesis projects at multiple companies are allowed.

**# thesis project proposals:** min. 1 thesis project, max 5 thesis projects per company can be submitted.

**Sponsorship:** Companies are not requested to sponsor the student, since all of them have a monthly allowance for the expected duration of the project. Anyway, companies can provide additional sponsorship on voluntary base or if requested by either national laws or internal rules. This information must be included into the proposal.

**Hosting:** Companies must host the students at their premises during the thesis project, providing the student with the possibility to be involved into a real working context. In case a student needs an accommodation, companies are requested to support the student in finding an accommodation prior of the student arrival.

**Travels:** Companies are not requested to cover student travel costs to reach the company premises at the beginning of the project and to go back home at the end of the project. Anyway companies must cover travel costs of the student, if these are requested to fulfil the thesis project within the period of the project.

**# Students per project:** Thesis projects can be carried out by either 1 single student or by a group of students (max. 3 students). Companies must declare how many students are able to host at their premises at the same time for each thesis project.

**Industrial supervisor:** Companies are requested to appoint a supervisor to mentor, support and monitor the student during the project and to act as a reference for the EITM master school.

**Students nationality:** EITM Master students have several nationalities, including extra-european countries, such as Pakistan, Iran, etc. Companies are requested to list if they have any restriction in hosting students from specific countries, according to company/State rules.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please note EIT Manufacturing reserves the right to either cancel the open call and/or to not select any project proposals, in case of any reason that may impact the Master School programmes. EIT Manufacturing will inform the companies immediately through its communication channels, such as Agora. Eventual submitted proposal won’t be evaluated and the contact person will be informed via e-mail, wherever possible.
3 Who can apply

This call is open to companies of whatever size (for instance enterprises, SMEs, startups). Both EIT Manufacturing partners and external companies can apply.

4 Conditions and documents

1. Eligibility conditions: being a company with an office within Europe.

3. Evaluation criteria, student assignment and process:

The thesis project proposal will be evaluated by the Master School university partners, according to their thesis academic requirements, mainly related to link to the EITM Master programmes and scientific relevance of the project.

Student assignment will be initially done directly from each academic programme supervisor and according to student preferences. The master programmes coordinators have the possibility to negotiate with the companies some adaptations of the projects in case to ensure a better fit with the master’s requirements.

Please note during the submission time, companies have the opportunity to clarify initial doubts with the Master programmes coordinators, listed in section 2.

Evaluation process

1. Indicative timetable for evaluation and thesis agreements:
   - Deadline for submitting applications: 1st November 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time
   - Evaluation period: November 2022
   - Information to applicants: 15th December 2022
   - Expected Thesis project start: January – April 2023
5 Submission

Proposal template is available in ANNEX 1 and it must be submitted in pdf format. Proposals can be submitted at any time from the launch of the call until 17:00 (Brussels Time) of the of the closing day as indicated in the timeline section of this document.

All applications must be submitted via Plaza, uploading the pdf file of the proposal, according to the template in ANNEX 1. The link for the submission is:


Submission instructions are available in ANNEX 2.

Please note:

- No further extensions will be granted.
- The submission system doesn’t allow to overwrite the submitted proposal document, so make sure you submit only the final version of the proposal.
- The submission system allows to submit up to 5 files, in a single submission through the same e-mail address, so make sure to follow instructions below, in case you want to submit more than one thesis project proposal with the same e-mail account.

Multiple proposals submissions

In case of more than one thesis project proposal:

- If multiple thesis projects proposals will be submitted using the same e-mail address, please upload 1 file per proposal and all the file at once. You won’t be able to re-submit additional files, so be sure you have the final version of all the maximum 5 files when you decide to submit.
- If each thesis projects proposals will be submitted using different e-mail address, you can submit each file separately. Only 1 file is mandatory, while the other 4 are optional.

Please note, EITM will accept at maximum 5 proposals per company, considering the arrival order.

In case of questions, problems and info, please contact:
masterschool@eitmanufacturing.eu
6 GDPR

Applications and participants data are treated according the EIT Manufacturing GDPR rules: https://eitmanufaturing.eu/privacy-policy/

By submitting your proposal you agree to all those rules.

7 Appeals and Complaints

Appeals about the proposal evaluation process can contact the EITM Master School office not later than two days after receiving the results of the evaluation: masterschool@eitmanufaturing.eu
ANNEX 1: Proposal Template

EITM Master School - Thesis Project Proposal

Activity 21271

8 [Thesis Project Name]

Yellow text TO BE DELETED:
- Maximum number of pages 5, excluding cover and index
- Font: Calibri Light
- Minimum font size 11pt, including tables content
### Contacts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name and EITM acronym, if any</th>
<th>EITM Partner code, if any</th>
<th>Project Supervisor Contact [Name Surname]</th>
<th>e-mail of Project Supervisor Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number of Project Supervisor Contact</th>
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   4.5 Accommodation support ......................................................................................................... 6
   4.6 Travel support ......................................................................................................................... 7
9 Organisation

Yellow text TO BE DELETED:
Please fill in the table below and give also a brief overview of your organisation, including information such as the organisation’s history, mission, specialist services provided, sources of funding, etc.

In case of multiple companies involved into the thesis project, please include a description of all the companies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company name</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company acronym</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company size</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[enterprise, large, SME, startup]</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company address where the thesis will take place (please add a raw for each office, in case of multiple locations)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[street, number, zip code, Town, region, country]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

9.1 Company overview
10 Overall Aim of the Thesis Project

Yellow text TO BE DELETED:
This should be a concise (one or two sentences only) overview of the project’s purpose.

E.g. “To quantify the risk associated with product’s X supply chain and devise a strategy to mitigate that risk.”

10.1 Master Programme reference

Yellow text TO BE DELETED:
Please indicate the EITM Master programme the thesis addresses (see section 2 for the Master programme names) and the field of applications (mechanics, management, electronics, robotics,...).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master programme name (see section 2 for the official names)</th>
<th>Field of application</th>
</tr>
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</table>

11 Project Outcomes

Yellow text TO BE DELETED:
Here you should indicate the key deliverables of the project, e.g. what specifically would you like the project to achieve? How will the project make a difference to your organisation?

Examples:
1. A state of the art review of the current market leaders
2. A strategy document for our organisation
3. A roadmap for implementation of recommendations

12 Methods and tools

Yellow text TO BE REMOVED:
Please include here info about tools/methods (if any) are needed/must be used for the project (matlab, python, statistical process control, business canvas,…). This is important to understand if the student has the proper background to reach the objectives.

13 Implementation requirements

Yellow text TO BE REMOVED:
Please include here info about:
- Expected thesis project timeframe
- Number of students able to host for this specific project
- List of students nationalities not accepted by the company, due to national law/internal rules
- Sponsorship of project details, if any
- Info about support to students to find accommodation, if needed (off-site students only)
- Info about travel support to student, if requested during the project

13.1 Expected project timeframe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company name</th>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>End time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13.2 #students

13.3 List of students nationalities not accepted by the company

13.4 Sponsorship of project details

Yellow text TO BE REMOVED:

In case of a group of students, please include here if you will support all of them, or just a part of them.

13.5 Accommodation support

Yellow text TO BE REMOVED:
EITM Master students could come from abroad, so it is possible they need to find an accommodation to work on the project thesis. Please include here info how you can eventually support the student to find an accommodation prior of the project official start.

13.6 Travel support

Besides any sponsorship details please include here info about any travel requirements during the project and what kind of support is provided to the student to cover the costs. Please note this not include travel costs the student spend to reach your company premises at the beginning of the project and to go back home at the end of the project.
ANNEX 2: Submission Instructions in PLAZA system

Proposals are submitted through PLAZA system. Companies don’t need to be registered in PLAZA to submit the proposal.

The SUBMISSION LINK is:


The following page will open.

![Submission Form](image)

Insert your PLAZA account e-mail address and check the box to agree about the privacy policy rules. Then click NEXT.

If you don’t have any PLAZA account after clicking next, a pop up window opens, please click on “CONTINUE” to go on with your submission.
The following page will open.

In the tab: “Name of the (Lead) Organization submitting”, choose your organization from the list of partners.
In the Country tab, choose the country of your organization.

In the tab: “Please attach your proposal document”, select the PDF file of your proposal using the SELECT button and click next.

If you selected the wrong file or a file not in PDF format, you can REMOVE it and upload the correct file.

If you want to submit more proposals, please use the tabs: “Please attach document 2” .... “Please attach document 5”. These tabs are optional so you don’t need to upload them to be able to submit your proposal.

After selecting the proper file and click on next button, you will be redirected to the summary page of the submission process, where you can check your data.

If the data are not correct, you can modify them, clicking on “Back” button.
If the data are correct, please click on “Process My Data”.

You have now completed the submission process.

You will receive a notification e-mail about your submission.
ANNEX 3: University combinations

For cohort 2021-23, the following entry exit combinations are active per programme.

- **MSc “People and Robots for sustainable work” programme:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY</th>
<th>EXIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondragon – 2021/22</td>
<td>TU Wien – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Máster Universitario en Robótica y Sistemas de Control.</td>
<td>Diplomingenieur/Master of Science in Robotics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPSI – 2021/22</td>
<td>TU Wien – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science (MS) in Engineering</td>
<td>Diplomingenieur/Master of Science in Robotics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **MSc “Additive Manufacturing for Full Flexibility” programme:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY</th>
<th>EXIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aalto – 2021/22</td>
<td>UCD – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomi-insinööri, Diplomingenjör, Master of Science (Technology)</td>
<td>Master of Engineering (ME) in Manufacturing Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aalto – 2021/22</td>
<td>TU Wien – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomi-insinööri, Diplomingenjör, Master of Science (Technology)</td>
<td>Diplomingenieur/ Master of Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPSI – 2021/22</td>
<td>UCD – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science (MS) in Engineering</td>
<td>Master of Engineering (ME) in Manufacturing Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLIMI – 2021/22</td>
<td>TU Wien – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurea Magistrale degree (equivalent to Master of Science), Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>Diplomingenieur/ Master of Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **MSc “Zero Defect Manufacturing for a Circular Economy” programme:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY</th>
<th>EXIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aalto – 2021/22</td>
<td>UCD – 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomi-insinööri, Diplomingenjör, Master of Science (Technology)</td>
<td>Master of Engineering Science (Manufacturing), Manufacturing Engineer (ME)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **MSc “Platforms for Digitalized Value Network” programme:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY</th>
<th>EXIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUPSI 2021/22</td>
<td>UCD 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science (MS) in Engineering</td>
<td>Master of Engineering (ME) in Manufacturing Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECN 2021/22</td>
<td>UCD 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Industrial Engineering, Smart and Connected Enterprise</td>
<td>Master of Engineering (ME) in Manufacturing Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLIMI 2021/22</td>
<td>SUPSI 2022/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Management Engineering</td>
<td>Master of Science (MS) in Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLIMI 2021/22</td>
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