

## EIT Manufacturing South and Invitalia join forces to drive innovation and growth in the manufacturing industry

Invitalia and EIT Manufacturing South recognise the importance of an operational collaboration for the promotion and exploitation of the opportunities offered by the incentives and for the support of the establishment and strengthening of manufacturing companies for the economic growth of Italy.

Milan, 14 April 2023. Under their Memorandum, EIT Manufacturing South and Invitalia join forces for promoting the opportunities offered by Invitalia's incentives to support the development of entrepreneurship, with particular reference to innovative enterprises and those promoted by young people and women, as well as promoting the opportunities and initiatives of [EIT Manufacturing](#), the largest innovation community in industry supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ([EIT](#)), a body of the European Union. Furthermore, the two entities have decided to commence a series of measures aimed at disseminating information, promoting their initiatives, and providing support for entrepreneurs. These efforts will leverage the resources and services available through both organisations' networks.

The partnership will also provide opportunities for companies and organisations in the manufacturing sector to connect and collaborate with other industry players.

### Providing support for businesses looking to innovate and grow

The partnership will leverage the strengths of both organisations to support the growth of manufacturing companies, startups, and SMEs in Italy and across Europe. The collaboration will focus on creating new opportunities for innovation, building new networks of expertise, and promoting initiatives born within the Invitalia Startup System.

EIT Manufacturing South and Invitalia plan to organise joint events and workshops, launch Open Innovation actions, create joint policy co-design initiatives, and promote each other's activities and services. The partnership will also provide access to EIT Manufacturing's extensive network of partners, which includes leading universities, research institutions, and industrial companies.

*"This strategic partnership is an exciting opportunity for EIT Manufacturing South to strengthen its presence in Italy and contribute to enhance the competitiveness of the manufacturing industry in the country" said **Gian Mario Maggio**, Managing Director of EIT Manufacturing CLC South. "We are thrilled to partner up with Invitalia and look forward to working together to drive innovation, promote entrepreneurship, and create new opportunities for growth in the manufacturing sector."*



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*For Invitalia, this is the first strategic alliance at the European level following the logic of productive chains, which, with a window on community opportunities and an interdisciplinary community, adds an important piece to the [Invitalia Startup System](#), the institutional innovation network created by the Agency to network companies, territories, and innovation stakeholders. Invitalia makes its portfolio of incentives and services available and facilitates the meeting between public facilitated finance and private capital.*

The new partnership between EIT Manufacturing CLC South and Invitalia marks a significant step forward in the drive to promote innovation and growth in the manufacturing industry. By bringing together the expertise and resources of two leading organisations, the partnership will help to drive positive change and create new opportunities for companies, with a special focus on startups and organisations in the sector.

### Background information

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology](#) (EIT) is Europe's largest innovation ecosystem bringing together over 3 400 partners from top business, research and education organisations across Europe in 200+ innovation hubs. The EIT is an EU body and an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Through dynamic pan-European partnerships, called Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) the EIT Community offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities, strengthening Europe's ability to innovate and powering solutions to pressing global challenges while nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe.

[EIT Manufacturing](#) is one of the nine innovation communities supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. 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 80 members (universities, research institutes and companies).

EIT Manufacturing's Co-Location Centre South ([CLC South](#)), with its headquarters in Milan, Italy is one of the six Co-Location Centres whose mission is fully aligned with the EIT Manufacturing one, that is to bring together leading manufacturing across Europe to integrate innovation and education for an entrepreneurial and sustainable Europe and to fulfill its vision: 'Global Manufacturing Innovation is led by Europe'. CLC South currently covers the Southern-Europe region comprising: Italy, Malta, Switzerland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro.

[Invitalia](#) is the National Agency for Inward Investment and Economic Development. It is owned by the Italian Ministry of Economy. Invitalia aspires to boost Italy's economic growth, focusing on strategic sectors for development and employment. It is committed to reviving crisis areas and operates mainly in the South of Italy. Invitalia manages all national incentives that promote the creation of new companies and innovative startups.

It finances small to large projects, targeting entrepreneurs with concrete development plans, especially in innovative and high added-value sectors.



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Invitalia provides services to the Public Administration for timely disbursement of EU and national funds, as well as in promoting cultural heritage. Invitalia is the Purchasing Body and Contracting Authority for the strategic execution of actions at the local level.

**EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!**

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