

Business Plan 2023 – 2025

EIT Manufacturing

Permanently Open Call for applications for
financial support to start-ups:

Accelerate 2023



Table of Contents

1. Call summary	2
2. General conditions.....	4
3. Call specific conditions	5
3.1 Call thematic and applicant's profile	5
3.2 Budget and funding.....	7
3.3 Mandatory deliverables	7
4. Reporting and monitoring	8
5. Proposal preparation and submission.....	8
6. Proposal evaluation and selection process	11
6.1 Eligibility and admissibility check.....	11
6.2 Evaluation of proposals.....	12
6.3 Communication of results.....	15
6.4 Procedure for complaints and appeal.....	15
6.5 Selected applicants and follow-up	16
7. Other terms and Conditions	17
7.1 Communication, Dissemination, Visibility of funding.....	17
7.2 Intellectual Property Rights	17
7.3 Right to activate audits	18
7.4 Withdrawal of the funding — Recovery of undue amounts.....	18
7.5 Data protection	18
7.6 Acceptance of the Guidelines.....	19
7.7 Confidentiality	20
7.8 Exclusion Criteria	21
7.9 Applicable Law.....	21

Disclaimer: This document provides the applicants with detailed information on the EIT Manufacturing call Accelerate 2023 of the EIT Manufacturing Business Plan 2023-2025. The information given is subject to revision, according to new potential rules or requirements provided by EIT and/or by the EC (European Commission). **Note:** for additional details please refer to the other sections of this document.

1. Call summary

Call for Proposals Main Features	
Dates	<p>Call opening: July 31st, 2023</p> <p>Cut-off dates:</p> <p>1st Cut-off date: September 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: September 2023 - Evaluation of applications: September 2023 - Communication of results: September 2023 <p>2nd Cut-off date: October 2nd, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: October 2023 - Evaluation of applications: October 2023 - Communication of results: October 2023 <p>3rd Cut-off date: November 6th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: November 2023 - Evaluation of applications: November 2023 - Communication of results: November 2023 <p>4th Cut-off date: December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: December 2023 - Evaluation of applications: December 2023 - Communication of results: December 2023
Introduction	<p>The EIT Manufacturing Accelerate programme has a primary objective to support, scale and accelerate industry startups into impactful players in the European manufacturing ecosystem. Accelerate programme supports and grants financing to startups and scaleups with innovative solutions and technologies, that address critical challenges in the manufacturing sector, and are helping the European manufacturing sector to become more efficient, resilient, green, and globally competitive.</p> <p>EIT Manufacturing aims to build European industry startups that show high growth and impact and addresses all range of technologies and business models, incremental improvement, and disruption. Furthermore, EIT Manufacturing encourages inclusive and gender-balanced teams to apply for this funding.</p>

<p>The total budget allocated to this call</p>	<p>4,000,000 EUR¹</p>
<p>Link to the submission portal</p>	<p>The submission platform will be available as of July 31st, 2023.</p>
<p>List of documents to be submitted</p>	<p>Application form available on the submission platform (HERE)</p>
<p>List of documents to take into consideration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call Manual - EIT Manufacturing Strategic Agenda - Eligibility of expenditure - Appeal procedure - Horizon Europe (Model) Grant Agreement (specifically Articles, 6.2 D.1 16 and 17) - Declaration of Honour - Financial Support Agreement
<p>Evaluation criteria</p>	<p>Evaluation stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the applications assessment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solution and technology 2. Growth plan and business model 3. Potential impact on manufacturing sector 4. Team structure 5. Traction and references • For the Investment Committee assessment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alignment with EIT Manufacturing vision and flagships 2. Excellence 3. Impact 4. Implementation 5. Team • For the final selection: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategic fit 2. Portfolio fit

¹ The total amount could be increased based on the budget availability.

2. General conditions

EIT Manufacturing boosts manufacturing innovation in Europe by connecting people with skills, technologies with markets, and innovators with investors. Technological progress is changing the industrial, social, and competitive landscape faster than ever before. Our aim is that Europe leads in manufacturing innovation. To do so, we need to overcome value network fragmentation and bring stakeholders together. We need to better use our knowledge and infrastructure to create value and deploy agile mechanisms to accelerate and steer innovation, shaping the future role of manufacturing in our society. With the needs, concerns, and ideas of the economy and society at its core, the mission of EIT Manufacturing is to empower its partners and stakeholders to fundamentally transform the manufacturing system and meet the global demands of present and future generations.

The primary objectives of the Business Creation team of EIT Manufacturing in 2023-2025 are to support, scale, and accelerate innovative ventures and small businesses into impactful technology suppliers. In this context, we will foster activities supporting the growth of scaleups and startups, taking them beyond the regional and national borders of the European ecosystems. This will be accomplished by Access-to-Market and Access-to-Finance support services, but also through newly created financing envelopes in our Create, Accelerate, and Transform programmes.

EIT Manufacturing Accelerate programme has a primary objective to support, scale and accelerate industry startups into impactful players in the European manufacturing ecosystem. Accelerate programme supports and grants financing to startups and scaleups with innovative solutions and technologies, that address critical challenges in the manufacturing sector, and are helping the European manufacturing sector to become more efficient, resilient, green, and globally competitive.

EIT Manufacturing aims to build European industry startups that demonstrate high growth and high impact and therefore addresses all range of technologies and business models, incremental improvement as well as disruption. Furthermore, EIT Manufacturing encourages inclusive and gender-balanced teams to apply for this funding.

3. Call specific conditions

3.1 Call thematic and applicant's profile

PURPOSE

EIT Manufacturing accelerates startups and scaleups that address critical challenges in manufacturing sector, building European high growth industrial scaleups. The goal of Accelerate Call is to support growth in mature startups and scaleups that are high growth, profitable, with societal impact. Tailored internationalisation and financing support is provided to startups and scaleups from across Europe to support their product development and go to market capabilities.

3.1.1. APPLICANTS PROFILE

The purpose of this call is to support startups with innovative product/service that address at least one of the following four [EIT Manufacturing focus areas \(flagships\)](#):

- Flexible Production Systems for Competitive Manufacturing
Emerging technologies enable almost limitless flexibility in product design and production, allowing full customisation.
- Low Environmental Footprint Systems & Circular Economy for Green Manufacturing
Using new technology to minimise use of resources, energy, and material in production systems enables new circular business models.
- Digital & Collaborative Solutions for Innovative Manufacturing Ecosystems
Collaboration and business on digital platforms and value networks enables companies to create new and highly efficient value chains.
- Human-machine co-working for socially sustainable manufacturing
Smart use of automation and robots enables great workplaces, flexible production, and sustainable human work.

Therefore, startups applying to this Call for applications must be aligned to EIT Manufacturing's vision and focus areas (flagships).

The **Accelerate Call** is open to startups with solutions at Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6 or higher, that are currently fundraising or preferably already in an ongoing funding round with the following characteristics:

- Developing new product/services/solutions serving the manufacturing sector.
- Significantly improving an existing product/services/solutions for expansion into a new industry sector or a new geographic area.

- Innovative product/service contributing to at least one of the EIT Manufacturing Focus Areas (flagships).
- Ideas demonstrating commercial prospects and track-record.
- Management and technical expertise available.

This Call for Applications is open for-profit private businesses established in the Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU), and/or in Third countries associated to Horizon Europe with at least 2 team members.

Specific cases: startups established in the United Kingdom, and exceptionally in Switzerland, are entitled to receive EIT Manufacturing funding only up to a cumulative maximum of 60.000 EUR for all projects they are involved in across the three years period 2023-2025. When exceeding this maximum amount, the above-mentioned startups can participate but at their own costs.

Startups selected to receive a financial support (as “sub-grantees”) will contribute to EIT Manufacturing’s financial sustainability by offering EIT Manufacturing a mechanism to take equity in the startup. This will allow the company to comply with financial sustainability goals requirements of EIT Manufacturing and to participate in the largest European initiative transforming the manufacturing sector, of which the EIT Manufacturing is the leading actor. In this regard, the company will also benefit from access to regional ecosystems, infrastructure, and support to drive growth and internationalisation.

This financial support call includes mentoring and hands-on support to scale your company with increased visibility and access to top-tier events. Also, this financial support call includes fast-track introduction to the largest pan-European manufacturing network including corporates, Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), universities and research organisations, and other sister European organisation such as the EIB (European Investment Bank), the EIC (European Innovation Council) and the EIF (European Investment Fund). Finally, this financial support call includes access to exclusive funding opportunities to scale sustainable through innovation projects and follow-on financial support opportunities.

These are the requirements that companies must fulfil in order to be granted financial support:

- Conclude the Financial Support Agreement.
- Agree to the proposed EIT Manufacturing's Financial Sustainability Mechanisms and conclude the relevant agreements to this effect, related to Future Equity or a Share transfer and any other related agreement to them.

3.2 Budget and funding

The total maximum EIT funding allocated to this call is 4,000,000 EUR. The available financial support (also known as “sub-grant”) is up to 500,000 EUR per company to pursue activities which are in line with the overall EIT Manufacturing objectives and based on submitted project budget by the applicant.

The costs of the project’s budget should be planned according to the document Eligibility of expenditure and the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement, Article 6.2 D.1, that are published on the Call webpage.

3.3 Mandatory deliverables

Startup should focus on providing deliverables and outputs linked to the project plan proposed in the Subgrant Agreement. The minimum core deliverables expected from a project are shown in the table below. This provides the list of mandatory deliverables to be submitted during the project implementation. Minor additional deliverables may be needed, depending on the product/service/solution.

Mandatory Deliverables	Description	Due date
Financial Reporting	Cost Reporting for Subgrantees	January 15, 2024

Important: all project deliverables and outputs must be achieved within the project duration. The templates for the deliverables are provided by EIT Manufacturing.

4. Reporting and monitoring

Reporting periods and technical reporting follow the rules and procedures established in the [EIT Manufacturing Monitoring guide](#) with a focus on the successful completion and approval of the mandatory deliverables.

If a mandatory deliverable is declared incomplete or needs to be improved, it will be rejected by EIT Manufacturing. The startup will have to complete/improve the mandatory deliverable later and resubmit it for its approval and subsequent payment.

If the rejection of the mandatory deliverable is confirmed, the total project budget (or the percentage) linked to it is not paid/recovered.

Furthermore, EIT Manufacturing will monitor all activities up to 5 years after activity completion to track long-term impact and the status of commercialisation and to ensure the achievement of KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) after the activity end.

5. Proposal preparation and submission

All applications and supporting documents and material must be submitted in English using the Submission Management Platform “Submittable” – the link to the application form is accessible on the [Call website](#) – no paper submissions will be considered.

Applicants’ representatives must register and validate the account if this is the first time accessing the platform. If the applicant’s representative has already created an account, the representative can proceed to log in. Once logged in, start a new application. During the application, all compulsory fields must be filled in.

The official language of the call is English (i.e., all submission material must be submitted in English).

Applicants are invited to send their applications at any time and before any of these cut-off dates:

Cut-off	Dates
First cut-off date	<i>September 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i>
Second cut-off date	<i>October 2nd, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i>

Third cut-off date	<i>November 6th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i>
Fourth cut-off date	<i>December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i>

The following documentation must be submitted by the applicants through the submission platform and **within the call cut-off dates**:

- Application form, with all mandatory fields properly filled in;
- Investor deck.²
- Company logo.
- Company Registration Certificate.
- Company Cap table.
- Optional: video/ picture demonstrations/ use cases of your company's proprietary technology, processes, and systems.

NOTE: ~~Only~~ Only applications submitted through the online link (as noted above) before the deadline will be accepted and considered. The organizers reserve the right to extend the submission deadline; any extension of the deadline will be communicated to the public on the Call website.

Any documentation missing or considered incomplete may be a reason for application rejection.

An indicative timeline is outlined in the table below. Please note that this calendar is indicative. The dates might be subject to slight changes.

Dates	<p>Call opening: <i>July 31st, 2023</i></p> <p>Cut-off dates:</p> <p>1st Cut-off date: <i>September 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: <i>September 2023</i> - Evaluation of applications: <i>September 2023</i> - Communication of results: <i>September 2023</i> <p>2nd Cut-off date: <i>October 2nd, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility and admissibility check: <i>October 2023</i> - Evaluation of applications: <i>October 2023</i>
--------------	---

² Applicants selected for the Investment Committee evaluation may be invited to an online pitch session with the Investment Committee.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Communication of results: October 2023</i> <p>3rd Cut-off date: November 6th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Eligibility and admissibility check: November 2023</i>- <i>Evaluation of applications: November 2023</i>- <i>Communication of results: November 2023</i> <p>4th Cut-off date: December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Eligibility and admissibility check: December 2023</i>- <i>Evaluation of applications: December 2023</i>- <i>Communication of results: December 2023</i>
--	---

CALL CONTACT EMAIL

All applicants may contact EIT Manufacturing to ask questions and clarify any points on general or technical procedures and call content by sending an email message to business.creation@eitmanufacturing.eu.

6. Proposal evaluation and selection process

6.1 Eligibility and admissibility check

A submission will be considered admissible if:

Completeness	The submission is completed, submitted in time, and via the submission tool, in English, with all its mandatory sections and compulsory documents included (application form, investor deck, company logo, and company registration certificate.)
---------------------	---

Admissible submissions will be considered eligible if:

Applicant profile	<p>The applicant's profile is in line with the requirements presented under section 3.1.1 "Applicants profile." Specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant is a for-profit business venture established in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Member States of the European Union; and/or • Third countries associated to Horizon Europe. • UK & Switzerland (specific rules apply). 2. The applicant team has at least 2 members. 3. The applicant's solution has Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6 or higher. 4. The applicant's solution contributes towards at least one of the following flagships as presented under section 3.1.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible Production Systems for Competitive Manufacturing • Low Environmental Footprint Systems & Circular Economy for Green Manufacturing • Digital & Collaborative Solutions for Innovative Manufacturing Ecosystems • Human-machine co-working for socially sustainable manufacturing
--------------------------	---

Applications containing one or more inadmissible or ineligible elements will receive an official communication from EIT Manufacturing setting out the outcome of the

eligibility and admissibility check and explaining why the proposal failed to meet the criteria.

The applicant deemed ineligible who disputes the ineligibility decision may appeal. This appeal must be made within 5 calendar days from the official EIT Manufacturing notification of ineligibility (see section 5.4 of this document and the document Appeal procedure linked to the call and available from the [Call website](#)).

6.2 Evaluation of proposals

All evaluation stages will be integrated by different groups of criteria and sub-criteria which will be assessed according to the following scores:

Score	Description
1	<i>Extremely poor or None</i> The information provided is considered irrelevant or inadequate compared to the specific call provisions
2	<i>Bad</i> The information provided lacks relevant quality and contains significant weaknesses, compared to the specific call provisions
3	<i>Average</i> The overall information provided is adequate, however, some aspects are unclearly or insufficiently detailed, compared to the specific call provisions
4	<i>Good</i> The information provided is adequate with sufficiently outlined details, compared to the specific call provisions
5	<i>Excellent</i> The information provided is outstanding in its details, clarity, and coherence, compared to the specific call provisions

The scores shall be given at the criteria level and then summed together to come with a final score.

One (1) External Expert Evaluator and one (1) Internal Evaluator from EIT Manufacturing Business Creation will evaluate each application that successfully passes the eligibility and admissibility check. They will assess the Solution and technology, Growth plan and business model, Potential impact on manufacturing sector, Team structure, and Traction and references. The applications are evaluated and scored against the criteria listed below:

Evaluation criteria	Solution and technology	Growth plan and business model	Potential impact on manufacturing sector	Team structure	Traction and References	TOT
	The application presents an innovative technology-based solution	The solution is scalable. Clear overview of market	The startup creates and has the potential for creating a significant	The team/founders have the expertise and	The startup has validated the solution and proven the	

	with the potential of the solution to improve manufacturing. Innovativeness / overall grade of novelty of the product / service USP – Unique Selling Proposition & market advantage	trends, attractiveness. Realistic calculation of market size, revenue model, pricing strategy. Plausible go-to-market strategy. Ambitious but realistic growth objectives.	positive impact for the manufacturing sector. Improving efficiency or environmental performance of manufacturing systems. Enabling new market opportunities for European manufacturers.	entrepreneurial drive. Technical and business-oriented co-founders, strengths, and complementary skills of the management team.	technology. Customer references validating the benefits of the solution. The solution has a product-market fit.	
Score	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	up to 25
Threshold	3/5	3/5	3/5	3/5	3/5	15/25

Thresholds apply to individual criteria and the total score. The maximum score for a proposal is 25. The default threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the default overall threshold is 15. The final scoring from the External Expert Evaluator will have a total weight of 60%, and the final scoring from the Internal Evaluator will have weight of 40% in the total weight.

Once the evaluators have concluded their assessment a Consensus Meeting is organised and a ranking list with recommendations is produced, together with a Summary Evaluation Report. Only applications with a total score equal or over 15 points (threshold) can be considered for the next steps, by being invited to the due diligence process conducted by EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team.

The EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team will request supporting business, financial and legal documentation to the investor deck that should be provided by the startups within 15 calendar days. The EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team will invite the startups for an interview during the due diligence process in order to clarify any open questions. Based on the provided documents the EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team will produce a Due Diligence Report and provide it to the Investment Committee. The Investment Committee is composed of three (3) External Expert Evaluators and two (2) Internal Evaluators from EIT Manufacturing Business Creation. The Investment Committee will invite the applicant that finished the due diligence process to an online live pitch at the Investment Committee session. The Investment Committee will review the Summary Evaluation Report and Due Diligence Report prior to the Investment Committee session and will assess the projects' alignment with EIT Manufacturing vision and flagships, as well as the Excellence, Impact and the Implementation of the projects, and the Team. The Investment Committee will evaluate and score the proposal against the criteria listed below:

Evaluation criteria	Excellence	Implementation	Impact	Team	Alignment with EITM vision and flagships	TOT
	The application presents an innovative technology-based solution with clear IP strategy and differentiation. The application presents a realistic and relevant analysis of market trends, competitors, and opportunities for market introduction. The application clearly describes the targeted users or customers of the innovation, how their needs have been addressed, why the users or customers identified want to use the product.	The application demonstrates a clear growth plan with measurable indicators and clear milestones. The application sets pertinent and clear milestones for the short and long term (achievable and specific tasks have been defined). The startup has identified all relevant risks and has planned mitigation measures.	The startup contributes significantly towards positive transformation of the manufacturing sector and has a clear growth plan towards profitability. The startup has a solid potential and strategy to contribute positively to the EIT Manufacturing financial sustainability. The innovation has the potential to scale-up. The scoring will highly reward any documentation underpinned by a convincing business plan with a clear timeline and financial data.	The management team/co-founders have commercial and management experience, including understanding of the financial and organisational requirements for commercial exploitation. The management team/co-founders have complementary skills.	The application addresses EIT Manufacturing vision and flagships as well as the long-term portfolio building strategy, with emphasis on sector and geographic diversity.	
Score	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	up to 25
Threshold	3/5	3/5	3/5	3/5	3/5	15/25

Thresholds apply to individual criteria and the total score. The maximum score for a proposal is 25. The default threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the default overall threshold is 15.

At the Investment Committee session, the evaluators will discuss and produce a ranking list with recommendations. Only applications with a total score equal or over 15 points (threshold) can be considered for the next steps, by being invited to submit final investment terms and legal framework that will incorporate the Investment Committee recommendations. The final agreements need to be submitted at the

email address: business.creation@eitmanufacturing.eu within 30 days³ from the notification date. The Investment Committee will evaluate the submitted final proposals considering the following strategic factors (see table below) and will grant an additional maximum 10 points.

Evaluation criteria	Strategic fit	Portfolio fit	TOT
	The application contributes to the EIT Manufacturing Strategic Objectives. The application is aligned with the call specific requirements as indicated in Section 3. The proposal shows potential to achieve the Call's expected outcomes and impacts as indicated in Section 3.	Business model, cap table, investment plans and term sheet conditions. Financial sustainability model. Cannibalization on existing portfolio (direct competition in the region). Geographical dispersion / balance.	
Score	1 to 5	1 to 5	up to 10
Threshold	3/5	3/5	6/10

Thresholds apply to individual criteria and the total score. The maximum score for a proposal is 10. The default threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the default overall threshold is 6.

In the Final selection the proposals that have more than 6 points will be selected for the monetary grant of up to 500,000 EUR.

6.3 Communication of results

Each applicant will receive an email notification or message through the submission platform with the results of the evaluation. If the applicant does not confirm acknowledgement of the decision, it is up to EIT Manufacturing to decide whether to allocate funding to another startup in the portfolio list or to allocate funding to the next cut-off date.

6.4 Procedure for complaints and appeal

The applicant (the representative of the legal entity or the team) of a rejected application who disagree with the decision may request an evaluation review. **Only procedural aspects of an evaluation may be the subject of a request for an evaluation review**, for example, process errors or technical problems. The evaluation of the merits of a proposal shall not be the subject of an evaluation review. In this case, the

³ The Investment Committee keeps the right to extend the deadline.

applicant will have 5 calendar days after receipt of the final evaluation results to submit an appeal to the Evaluation (see document Appeal procedure).

6.5 Selected applicants and follow-up

The selected applicants will receive the following:

- a **“growth package”** of Access-to-Market support services provided by the EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team aimed at supporting their internationalisation strategy and deployment of their innovation.
- access to EIT Manufacturing's pan-European innovation network and thus enhance their visibility and international publicity through EIT Manufacturing's communication channels.
- a monetary grant of up to 500,000 EUR to implement the planned activities and achieve the milestones in their proposal.

The selected applicants will have to diligently collaborate in the following steps that will be taken after closing the call:

- Providing EIT Manufacturing with required banking and fiscal details.
- Collaborate with the Business Creation team of EIT Manufacturing during the delivery of “growth package” support services.

These are the requirements that companies must fulfil in order to be granted financial support:

- Conclude the Financial Support Agreement.
- Agree to the proposed EIT Manufacturing's Financial Sustainability Mechanisms and conclude the relevant agreements to this effect, related to Future Equity or a Share transfer and any other related agreement to them.
- Provide regular information and quarterly reports on the business and financial progress, and any relevant legal information.
- EIT Manufacturing will have the right to nominate a board representative.

The information above is provided for information only and does not constitute any kind of commitment on behalf of EIT Manufacturing.

The exact number of startups to be selected for funding will depend on the quality of the applications received.

7. Other terms and Conditions

7.1 Communication, Dissemination, Visibility of funding

Applicants that are awarded funding (financial support to third parties) must promote the funding and its results, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) strategically and effectively. Communication activities related to the funding (including media interviews, press statements, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), must acknowledge EU support and display the EIT Manufacturing logo (emblem) and text. The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands, or text. Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EIT Manufacturing support. When displayed in association with other logos (e.g., sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of these obligations, the applicants that have been awarded funding may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from EIT Manufacturing. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means. Any communication or dissemination activity related to the funding must use factually accurate information.

The EIT Manufacturing may use, for their communication and publicising activities, information relating to the funding, as well as photos or audio-visual material that they receive from the applicants (including in electronic form), and photos and videos taken either in preparation for the dedicated EIT Manufacturing event or during the dedicated EIT Manufacturing event. The EIT Manufacturing will publish the name of both the shortlisted/s and the selected applicants, their origin, the amount of the funding, and their nature and purpose.

7.2 Intellectual Property Rights

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application, applicants affirm that they hold ownership or have legally secured the right to use all elements of the innovative product or service.

Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless EIT Manufacturing and/or any assignee or affiliate from any third-party allegations or claims of intellectual property rights infringement by the product or service of applicants. Applicants shall have the right to further develop, use and license their intellectual property rights for creating, making, marketing, and distributing products, services, and technology. Applicants agree to respect the IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) Rules (Article 16 of the Model Grant Agreement). Applicants also agree to respect the [EIT Manufacturing IP Policy](#)

7.3 Right to activate audits

EIT Manufacturing retains the right to activate an audit on Accelerate Call applicants that have been awarded funding, in case of alerts and/or to confirm governance and proper usage of the financial support.

EIT Manufacturing keeps the right to request any data related to the Accelerate Call applicants that have been awarded funding for 5 years after completion to ensure transparency and allow monitoring from EIT.

7.4 Withdrawal of the funding — Recovery of undue amounts

EIT Manufacturing may withdraw the funding after its award and recover all payments made if it finds out that:

- false information, fraud, or corruption was used to obtain it;
- the awarded applicants were not eligible or should have been excluded or – the awarded applicants are in serious breach of their obligations under the Guidelines reported in this document.

7.5 Data protection

EIT Manufacturing ensures that any processing of personal data shall be performed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). As a data subject, you have the right of access, the right to rectification, the right to erasure, the right to restrict processing, the right to data portability, the right to object, and the right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing. If you

have a question about personal data processing or want to exercise your data subject rights, you can contact our Data Protection Officer at dpo@eitmanufacturing.eu. In the case of complaints, you can address them to the French regulator CNIL.

The collected personal data will be used solely for the procedure and assessment of the applications and the management, completion, organisation, dissemination of information, and publicity of the Call. The data controller is EIT Manufacturing and/or its subsidiaries.

Personal data shall be deleted 5 years after the announcement of the call awarded to applicants.

Applicants can indicate that EIT Manufacturing may grant access to parts of their submission to trusted investors and partners.

The application submission and evaluation process will be done via Submittable (<http://www.submittable.com>), an online submission management tool by Submittable Holdings, Inc.

YOUR CONSENT TO THE USE OF SUBMITTABLE AS SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION TOOL: By submitting your application within this challenge you implicitly state your consent to the Terms and Conditions as well as the Privacy policy of Submittable, available under <http://www.submittable.com/terms> and <http://www.submittable.com/privacy>.

YOUR CONSENT TO THE USE OF PERSONAL DATA: By submitting your application within this call you consent that EIT Manufacturing will collect, transfer, process, store, and delete your data in accordance with the aforementioned conditions.

7.6 Acceptance of the Guidelines

By submitting the application form, the applicant agrees to these Guidelines and their Annexes, which form part of the submission. Applicants agree that they have no legal entitlement to funding.

EIT Manufacturing reserves the right to make reasonable amendments to these Guidelines. Amendments and additions to these Guidelines shall be valid only if communicated in writing or otherwise made available to the applicants on the call page of the EIT Manufacturing website.

EIT Manufacturing also reserves the right to cancel or declare the Call unsuccessful provided all applicants are informed and sufficient justification is given (for example no applications received, or all applications do not pass the default thresholds).

7.7 Confidentiality

EIT Manufacturing undertakes to use any Confidential Information shared by the applicants solely for Accelerate Call. Confidential information shall mean data and/or information that is proprietary to, or possessed by, the applicants and not generally known to the public, or that has not yet been revealed whether in tangible or intangible form, whenever and however disclosed and might also be included in the application form. Confidential information must be expressly labelled as such in the application form.

Applicants agree that EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries can disseminate, publish, and make use of non-confidential information regarding the call, to promote the activities of EIT Manufacturing or establish reports or other necessary documents for EIT.

The applicants agree that data and information in the application form not labelled as confidential may be disclosed in connection with the activities of EIT Manufacturing.

Considering the confidential nature of the data and information referred to above, EIT Manufacturing also undertakes to (i) not disclose them in any way and any form, without the prior written authorization of the company concerned; and (ii) not to use them for purposes other than those strictly necessary for participation in the Accelerate Call.

Confidential Information may be shared among EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries (e.g., CLCs (Co Location Centers)) solely for the Accelerate Call Activity. EIT Manufacturing undertakes to impose this confidentiality obligation on its employees and the employees of its subsidiaries and its collaborators, as well as on Rapporteurs and independent experts and all subjects who, by virtue of participating in the call for proposal as members of the Selection Committees or Jury, will take knowledge of or may have access to such confidential data and information.

7.8 Exclusion Criteria

Start-ups applying or participating in the program can be excluded at any time (during the assessment, the contracting phase, or the implementation phase) if they are in any of the situations of exclusion defined in [Article 136 of the EU Financial Regulation](#). Applicants shall sign a Declaration of Honour to confirm that they respect the above-mentioned criteria at the application stage. All applicants may be requested to provide relevant recent documentation substantiating the Declaration of Honour. Failure to provide adequate documentation may result in the exclusion of the applicants concerned.

7.9 Applicable Law

The present guidelines are governed by the applicable European Union laws (i.e., the EIT Regulation, the EU Financial Regulation, and the Horizon Europe Regulation) and are complemented, where necessary, by the law of France. The applicants agree to observe the obligations outlined in the [\(Model\) Grant Agreement](#) signed between the EIT and EIT Manufacturing and particularly Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping). These obligations will also be mentioned in the contracts to be signed if the application is successful.