Business Plan 2023 – 2025

EIT Manufacturing
Permanently Open Call for applications

Transform 2023

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Disclaimer: This document provides the applicants with detailed information on the EIT Manufacturing call Transform 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	*Call opening:* August 7th, 2023 *Cut-off dates:* *1st Cut-off date:* September 7th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET - *Eligibility and admissibility check:* September 2023 - *Evaluation of applications:* September 2023 - *Communication of results:* September 2023 *2nd Cut-off date:* October 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET - *Eligibility and admissibility check:* October 2023 - *Evaluation of applications:* October 2023 - *Communication of results:* October 2023 *3rd Cut-off date:* November 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET - *Eligibility and admissibility check:* November 2023 - *Evaluation of applications:* November 2023 - *Communication of results:* November 2023 *4th Cut-off date:* December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET - *Eligibility and admissibility check:* December 2023 - *Evaluation of applications:* December 2023 - *Communication of results:* December 2023
Introduction	The EIT Manufacturing TRANSFORM programme's aim is to stimulate technology pull from industry and technology push into industry, fostering the transformation process in the European manufacturing ecosystem. . EIT Manufacturing aims to support manufacturing corporates and SMEs in solving industrial and innovation challenges, by implementing new technologies from startups that could be further co-developed and integrated in their business operations and production. TRANSFORM focuses on addressing: • the innovation needs of well-established companies, such as manufacturing corporates and SMEs, and • business transformation through adoption of new technologies to empower competitiveness and ensure sustainability

	The purpose of this call is to support pilot projects between manufacturing corporates or SMEs (further called: "Challenge Owners") and startups on a specific industrial challenge.

Through a structured process, the EIT Manufacturing Business Creation team will support the collaboration between corporates and SMEs with the best-fitting startup partners for further development and pilot project implementation, and will provide guidance, support, and financing during the pilot project. The Call has the dual goal of providing innovative solutions for the Corporates/SMEs and opening new market opportunities for startups. |
The total budget allocated to this call	120,000 EUR[1]
Link to the submission portal	The submission platform will be available as of August 7th, 2023.
List of documents to be submitted	Application form available on the submission platform (HERE)
List of documents to take into consideration	- Call Terms and Conditions - EIT Manufacturing Strategic Agenda - Eligibility of expenditure - Appeal procedure - Horizon Europe (Model) Grant Agreement (specifically Articles 16 and 17) - Declaration of Honour - Financial Support Agreement
Evaluation criteria	1. Excellence 2. Impact and financial sustainability 3. Implementation 4. Strategic fit

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[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 stimulate technology pull from industry and technology push into industry, fostering the transformation process in the European manufacturing ecosystem. EIT Manufacturing seeks to support the application of innovative technologies in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), mid-cap companies and corporates, horizontally along existing supply chains, but also vertically, by integrating them into existing systems.

TRANSFORM Call focuses on addressing:

- the innovation needs of well-established companies, such as manufacturing corporates and SMEs, and;
- business transformation through adoption of new technologies to empower competitiveness and ensure sustainability by providing companies access to an international pool of technologies for improving (operational, production) efficiency, product quality and sustainability.

In the context of supporting collaboration between startups and corporates, Transform Call 2023 emerges as a solution to address the challenges startups encounter when attempting to secure initial businesses with manufacturing customers.

This program's Call not only focuses on lowering collaboration barriers but also seeks to minimize uncertainty risks associated with the adoption of novel technologies within industry.

Transform Call 2023 will foster new business relationships between manufacturing startups and companies across Europe while facilitating real business engagements, resulting in mutual growth and advancement within the industry. This Call presents startups with a valuable opportunity to build strong partnerships with manufacturing

customers, thereby driving innovation and achieving success in a competitive business landscape.

In conclusion, the collaboration between startups and the manufacturing sector holds the potential for significant innovation impact. Through the practical application of startups' solutions to address real-world manufacturing challenges, the industry can experience heightened efficiency and enhanced competitiveness at a European scale. As individual companies grow and prosper, the broader society also benefits from these advancements, fostering progress in European manufacturing and contributing to a more sustainable and thriving industrial landscape. This partnership between startups and the manufacturing sector represents a remarkable opportunity for transformative growth and positive impact on society.

3.   Call specific conditions

3.1   Call thematic and applicant's profile

3.1.1   PURPOSE

EIT Manufacturing aims to support manufacturing corporates and SMEs in solving industrial and innovation challenges, by implementing new technologies from startups that could be further co-developed and integrated in their business operations and production. Through a structured process, the Business Creation team will support the collaboration between corporates and SMEs with the best-fitting startup partners for further development and pilot project implementation, and will provide to the partners guidance, support, and financing during the pilot project. The Call has the dual goal of providing innovative solutions for the Corporates/SMEs and opening new market opportunities for startups. The purpose of this call is to support pilot projects between manufacturing corporates or SMEs (further called: "Challenge Owners") and startups on a specific industrial challenge. The identified industrial challenges and pilot project proposals have to fit within 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, the pilot projects full proposals that are submitted to this Call by startups must be aligned to EIT Manufacturing's vision and focus areas (flagships) and address a specific Challenge Owner's need.

3.1.2 EITM's FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND FURTHER BENEFITS FOR CHALLENGE OWNERS AND STARTUPS

EIT Manufacturing offers broad access to startups, technologies and regional ecosystems; and can give visibility within the EIT Manufacturing community.

Selected Challenge Owners will receive EIT Manufacturing support for a fixed fee or can be considered for membership of EIT Manufacturing[2]. Such paid support could include challenge scouting, evaluation and monitoring.

The selected startup will receive mentoring and business development support to help them in the pilot collaboration with the Challenge Owner, but also in their further growth, including increased visibility and access to top-tier events. As a future step, EIT Manufacturing may consider the startup for further funding, linked to a shareholding mechanism.

3.1.3 APPLICANTS PROFILE

The Transform Call is open to startups that address an identified corporate or SME's challenge and that have been collaborating with the Challenge Owner on the planning of the pilot project. The solutions proposed for the pilot project by the startups should have at least Technology Readiness Level 7 or higher.

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[2] Please check with more details in the Partnership model:
https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/partners/partnership-models/

The startups applying to the Transform call must meet the following eligibility criteria:

a. Be a legal for-profit entity with registered headquarters in one of the European Union Member States or countries associated to Horizon Europe at the time of their application to the call.
b. Have a dedicated team of at least two (2) full-time equivalent employees.
c. The application shall provide a complete application form:
   - pilot project full proposal
   - logo and company registration certificate
   - a signed Confirmation Letter from a Challenge Owner including description of the challenge, commitment to the pilot project and financial sustainability (as per section 3.1.2).

The exact number of pilot projects funded will depend on the quality of the applications received.

3.1.4. EXPECTED RESULTS

Transform 2023 takes the challenges of manufacturing corporates and SMEs and then supports a collaboration with a selected startup partner in adaptation or development of their solution and a pilot project implementation in the Corporates/SMEs. Corporates and SMEs work collaboratively with the startups to further develop or adapt the provided solutions and test them through a Pilot project implementation.

The Transform 2023 selected startups must conduct an in-situ demonstration of the Pilot project for by December 31st, 2024.

3.2   Contribution to EIT Manufacturing's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The startups that are selected for this Call have to contribute to the following mandatory KPI.

KPI	Short title	Minimum target
EITHE03.1	KIC Supported Start-ups/Scale-ups	1

The startups that are selected within this Call could contribute also to the following additional KPIs:

KPI	Short title	Minimum target

EITHE02.1	Number of all innovations introduced on the market during the KAVA duration or within six months after completion. Innovations include new or significantly improved products (goods or services) sold.	1
EITHE02.4	Number of innovations introduced on the market during the KAVA duration or within 6 months after completion with a sales revenue of at least 10 000 EUR documented	1
EITHE06.1	Total EUR amount of private and public capital attracted within year N (€M)	

Please, note that once the KPI value is submitted it will not be possible to amend it (only an increase of the value is possible); it will remain as is for the target to be achieved by the end of the activity.

3.3   Budget and funding

The total maximum EIT funding allocated to this call is 120,000 EUR. The available financial support (also known as "sub-grant") is 20,000 EUR per pilot project for activities which are in line with the overall EIT Manufacturing objectives.

The financial contribution will be awarded **to the selected startups**, as a lump sum of 20,000 EUR for a period of a maximum of 12 months, where one Challenge Owner could only work with one Startup Partner supported with this Call.

The lump sum offered will cover the startup's eligible (direct and indirect) costs for the pilot project.

All Pilot project full proposals must provide a detailed cost estimation, which must be an approximation of the actual costs. Before submitting the full proposal, Startup Partners should double-check that the total requested EIT funding is EXACTLY EQUAL to 20,000 EUR.

The cost estimation provided must be:

- subject to the same eligibility rules as in actual costs grants, i.e. cost estimations can be included only if the same cost item/type of cost would be eligible in an actual cost grant
- detailed in terms of tasks: applicants must identify the budget assigned to each task and the expected ending date of the task.
- must be in line with normal practices
- must be reasonable/not excessive
- must be in line with and necessary for the activities proposed
- in line with the best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) principle and ensure that there is no conflict of interests Article 12 of the Model Grant Agreement).

For information on the eligibility of costs of your project's budget, please refer to the document Eligibility of expenditure published on the Call webpage ([LINK](#)).

The lump sum grant will be transferred in two (2) instalments:

First payment

The first payment of the funding assigned will be done according to the following schedule:

First Payment	Estimated date
80% of the funding to be received	At the beginning of the project

In case of applicants subjected to EU administrative sanctions[3] or in one of the exclusion situations listed in the "Declaration of Honour" that ban them from receiving European funding, **EIT Manufacturing reserves the right to withdraw the grant at any step of the Call.**

Final payment
It takes place after the official closing of the project.

The 20% funding remaining to be received will be paid upon acceptance by EIT Manufacturing of the mandatory deliverables presented in paragraph 3.4. The non-completion of the mandatory deliverables might affect the balance payment and might imply the application of the performance rate methodology to the balance payment and eventual payment recovery of the first payment.

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[3] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02018R1046-20221214

3.4   Mandatory deliverables for Startups

Deliverables	Value assigned to deliverables regarding the total funding to be received
DEL 1: Kick-off package. This package includes a copy of the signed Financial Support Agreement and Declaration of Honour.	40% of the funding
DEL 2 Interim performance report. The report will contain a Pilot project status report.	40% of the funding
DEL 3: Final performance report. The report the achieved results and deliverables and will address the EIT Manufacturing branding requirements.	20% of the funding

The templates for the deliverables are provided by EIT Manufacturing.

4.   Reporting and monitoring

Reporting periods and technical reporting follow general rules and procedures established in the *EIT Manufacturing's Activities Monitoring guide* (Go to Simplified monitoring) with a focus on the successful completion and approval of the mandatory deliverables. However, EIT Manufacturing reserves the right to provide simplified templates for the reporting.

If a mandatory deliverable is declared incomplete or needs to be improved, it will be rejected by EIT Manufacturing, and the lump sum amount concerned will not be paid at that point in time. 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 will not be paid or recovered.

Furthermore, EIT Manufacturing will monitor all activities up to 5 years after activity completion to track long-term impact and to ensure the achievement of expected results and outcomes after the activity end.

All pilot projects selected for funding undergo continuous monitoring by EIT Manufacturing to ensure effective progress and implementation.

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 (HERE)– 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 in Transform Call. 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	*September 7th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
Second cut-off date	*October 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
Third cut-off date	*November 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
Fourth cut-off date	*December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*

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.
- Pilot project full proposal (Go to Application form for details).
- Company logo.

- Company registration certificate.
- Confirmation Letter from a Challenge Owner including description of the challenge and commitment to the pilot project and financial sustainability.

NOTE: Only applications submitted through the online application link (HERE) 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	*Call opening:* *August 7th, 2023*
	Cut-off dates:
	1st Cut-off date: *September 7th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
	- *Eligibility and admissibility check:* *September 2023* - *Evaluation of applications:* *September 2023* - *Communication of results:* *September 2023*
	2nd Cut-off date: *October 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
	- *Eligibility and admissibility check:* *October 2023* - *Evaluation of applications:* *October 2023* - *Communication of results:* *October 2023*
	3rd Cut-off date: *November 9th, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
	- *Eligibility and admissibility check:* *November 2023* - *Evaluation of applications:* *November 2023* - *Communication of results:* *November 2023*
	4th Cut-off date: *December 1st, 2023, 12:00 pm CET*
	- *Eligibility and admissibility check:* *December 2023* - *Evaluation of applications:* *December 2023* - *Communication of results:* *December 2023*

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 <u>admissible</u> 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, Pilot project full proposal, Company Logo, Company registration certificate and Confirmation letter.)

Admissible submissions will be considered <u>eligible</u> if:

Applicant profile	The applicant's profile is in line with the requirements presented under section 3.1.3 "Applicants profile."

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 the document Appeal procedure also 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	Extremely poor or None	The information provided is considered irrelevant or inadequate compared to the specific call provisions
2	Bad	The information provided lacks relevant quality and contains significant weaknesses, compared to the specific call provisions

3	Average	The overall information provided is adequate, however, some aspects are unclearly or insufficiently detailed, compared to the specific call provisions
4	Good	The information provided is adequate with sufficiently outlined details, compared to the specific call provisions
5	Excellent	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.

Two (2) External Expert Evaluators (EEEs) and one (1) Internal Evaluator from EIT Manufacturing Business Creation will evaluate each application that successfully passes the eligibility and admissibility check. The evaluators reserve the right to invite the applicants to an interview. The applications are evaluated and scored against the criteria: Excellence, Impact, Implementation and Strategic fit, as listed below:

Evaluation criteria	Excellence	Impact and Financial Sustainability	Implementation	Strategic fit	TOTAL
	The application presents an innovative technology-based solution with the potential of the product/service to improve manufacturing and solve the disclosed challenge.	The pilot project contributes significantly towards positive transformation of the manufacturing sector, and towards the financial sustainability of EIT Manufacturing.	The application demonstrates a clear growth plan with measurable indicators and clear milestones.	The startup contributes to the EIT Manufacturing flagship and vision, and the business challenge for which it has been submitted.	
Score	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	up to 20
Thresholds	3/5	3/5	3/5	3/5	12/20

Thresholds apply to individual criteria and the total score. The maximum score for a proposal is 20. The default threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the default overall threshold is 12.

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 (SER). Only applications with a total score equal or over 12 points (threshold) can be considered for funding.

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 pilot project 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 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 startups 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 20,000 EUR to implement a pilot project to address the challenge disclosed by the Challenge Owner according to the pilot project full proposal.

The selected Startup 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.
- Signature of a Declaration of Honour (see point 7.8) which can be downloaded from the Call website ([HERE]).

- Signature of the Framework Agreement and the Financial Support Agreement.
- Collaborate with the Business Creation team of EIT Manufacturing during the delivery of "growth package" support services.

- Within one month from the end of the Framework Agreement: signature of a Support Review Form (SRF) confirming:

  i. the length and type of services provided by the Business Creation team of EIT Manufacturing and how such services contributed to the startup growth;

  ii. the amount, type, and source of financing received by the startup during the support period.

The template of the Support Review Form will be provided in due time by the Business Creation team and shall be signed by a legal representative of the startup.

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 Transform Call Startup Partner 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 Transform Call Startup Partners 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 Transform 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 Transform Call.

Confidential Information may be shared among EIT Manufacturing and its subsidiaries (e.g., Co-Location Centers) solely for the Transform 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.