



Partnering Event 2008

Advanced tooling industry for competitive European manufacturing sectors

Wednesday 17th December 2008

10:00 h – 16:15 h

1000 Brussels, Belgium (Venue will be identified at a later stage)

Tool making industries have a high value added potential. Special tooling, together with precision machining and micro tooling, holds a key position in the plastic and metal processing value chain. These industrial sectors are of strategic importance. Industries, such as automotive, packaging, aeronautics, biotechnology, medical, etc, have exacting requirements in terms of cost (est. 30% reduction), time to market (est. 40% reduction) and product quality-reliability.

Of key importance for tool industry is the development of knowledge-based engineering capabilities drawing on in-depth understanding of the behaviour of materials, machines, processes and systems.

Challenges to be tackled are divers, as the tool interfaces with the final product and with the machine and production systems of which it is a core part. Challenges include amongst others

- Better understanding and use of advanced materials to optimise operational parameters of the tools.
- Enhancing product development by means of advanced numerical simulation in order to increase quality and capacity while minimizing maintenance and downtime.
- Integration of the machine tool in an intelligent, distributed and reconfigurable manufacturing system asks for advanced ad hoc business models.

To tackle those challenges high quality and interdisciplinary research is at stake. Several European R&D programmes currently offer opportunities for funding: Framework Programme 7 (Cooperation programmes NMP, ICT, KBBE/Biotech, Health, Research for the Benefit of SMEs) as well as other European programmes like EUREKA, Eurostars, AAL and ARTEMIS.

This partnering event will offer you the opportunity to expose/meet project ideas and build consortia in view of responding to calls of these programmes.

Participating regions or countries

The event is open to 8-10 European regions through one of their representative organizations.

The following regions will for sure be represented: Flanders (BE) through IWT, the Walloon region (BE) through NCP-Wallonie. We await confirmation of 6 other regions.



How to participate

Each participating region brings 4 to 5 SMEs, large enterprises and/or research organizations and 1 to 2 project ideas to the event. In guided brainstorming sessions it is intended to develop 2 or 4 consortiums with specific ideas for new research projects for the current and near future programme calls. By concentrating on targeted regions, this event will provide an effective and efficient forum for developing joint projects and future networks for successful European projects.

Due to the need to bring together a selective audience interested in concrete project development, the event is not open to all, and applications for participation to the event need the support of the corresponding organization (see contacts below).

Participating enterprises and research organizations should be convinced of the need for transnational cooperation, should be prepared to discuss their ideas openly and contribute constructively to two brainstorming sessions of their choice.

IWT, the Institute for the Promotion of Innovation by Science and Technology in Flanders and NCP-Wallonie (part of the Walloon Business Federation) are the main organizers. They will provide facilities and catering. Participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs.

The registration is free. The venue is in the heart of Brussels.

Agenda

topic	speaker	start
Welcome address	tbc	10:00
Organisation & agenda	tbc	10:10
European funding for tooling	tbc	10:20
Presentation of proposal seeds	different speakers	10:50
Networking lunch	all	11:50
Parallel brainstorming: session 1	all	13:00
Break	all	14:25
Parallel brainstorming: session 2	all	14:35
Groups' results, summary, next steps	tbc	16:00
End		16:15