

29th August 2014, Birmingham (UK): PATHFINDER Roadmap: defining research priorities, *Driving R&D activities in the Simulation and Forecasting arena*

With the Pathfinder mission in mind being:

“To increase knowledge and awareness of, and determine the future use and impact of simulation and forecasting technologies in manufacturing”

the partners in the Pathfinder consortium are working towards meeting three objectives:

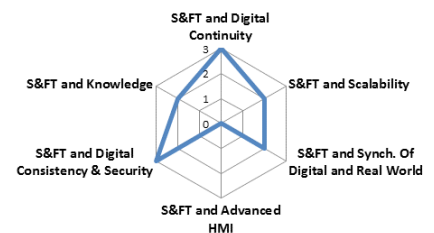
1. To deliver a roadmap pointing out research priorities leading to the next generation simulation and forecasting technologies.
2. To inform the manufacturing industry on state of the art simulation and forecasting technologies.
3. To favour the creation of a network of experts.

For meeting the first objective, seven steps have been taken:

1. A deep analysis of trends, current road-mapping activities and national initiatives, set the basis for the definition of the Pathfinder vision - see [Results](#)
2. The Pathfinder vision (see [Results](#)) has been developed in such a way to be consistent with current road-mapping efforts at national and international level (so not to introduce a new vision on manufacturing itself, but to embrace existing activities).
3. From the vision, the current trends and future envisioned state of Simulation and Forecasting Technologies have been derived.
4. In parallel, the current state of market practice has been investigated.
5. By confronting the envisioned future state with the current state of market practice, the road-mapping activity has defined the related Gaps. These can be considered as the missing link between what is currently available and the future envisioned manufacturing scenario.
6. Identified gaps are a main input for the identification of challenges that are expected to arise for the S&FT innovation need.
7. Challenges will be addressed by consistently addressing the research priorities identified.

These steps represent the building blocks of the Pathfinder Roadmap. A document describing these building blocks and their interrelation to present the roadmap including the effective presentation of identified challenges and research priorities for future S&FT is available on the Pathfinder website in the [Results](#) section.

Challenges' coverage of: Research Priority 1



Acknowledgements:

The Pathfinder project is co-funded by the European Commission under FP7-2013-NMP-ICT-FOF as part of the European Economic Recovery Plan (EERP) adopted in 2008. The EERP proposes the launch of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in three sectors, one of them being Factories of the Future (FoF). Factories of the Future is a EUR 1.2 billion program in which the European Commission and industry are collaborating in research to support the development and innovation of new enabling technologies for the EU manufacturing sector.

For further information please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/factories-of-the-future_en.html

Interested? Get involved!

Join us in sharpening the roadmap and become a member of the Pathfinder Advisory Board.

Contact: pedrazzoli@ttsnetwork.com