

10th September 2013, Kaiserslautern, Germany - Lecture on the 5th SmartFactory^{KL} - Innovation Day

The 4th Industrial Revolution has become more and more a highly important topic to industrial enterprises. Up-to-date Information and Communications Technology (ICT), like cyber-physical systems, cloud computing or simulation and forecasting tools will be key aspects of this concept. The use of such systems in industrial environments promises the manufacturing industry the possibility to significantly increase productivity, quality, efficiency and flexibility and thus advancing the business location Europe.

But how do these buzzwords evolve into a real-world system? Would it be actually a quantum leap for the industry or just hype? What concrete challenges do we face? In order to review and discuss those issues among current research and approaches, the SmartFactory^{KL} invited all industry partners (around 80 guests) for the innovation day on September 10, 2013 in Kaiserslautern.

The day included presentations by different partner companies and international scientists, as well as tours of SmartFactory^{KL}-facilities, technology demonstrations and stimulating conversations and discussions with other representatives from industry, research and politics.

It was exactly the right time to present and discuss our PATHFINDER project! Dr. Paolo Pedrazzoli took the opportunity to inform all participants about challenges for the European manufacturing industry, based on the EFFRA "Factories of the Future 2020" and with a focus on PATHFINDER which means on ICT for simulation and forecasting in manufacturing.

It was the first step to address and industrial enterprises get feedback. Questionnaires were developed and shared out and further interesting discussions were appropriate with the guiding principle of involving main key players in the field of this project.



Paolo Pedrazzoli of TTS speaking at the Innovation Day at SmartFactory^{KL}

Acknowledgements:

This project is co-funded by the European Commission 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