

DIGITbrain's 1<sup>st</sup> Open Call attracted broad interest all over Europe and beyond – more than 60 organisations applied until closing date on 30<sup>th</sup> June!

The first DIGITbrain Open Call turned out to be a great success with 62 organisations (with 50 being SMEs) from 11 Countries applying until closing date on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Eligible manufacturing SMEs<sup>1</sup> had the opportunity to apply for up to 100K€ funding for the implementation of their own Digital Twin.



The first DIGITbrain Open Call, launched on last 31<sup>st</sup> March, was a resounding success counting a total of 27 proposals received by DIGITbrain's Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) until closing date on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

62 different organizations from 11 European Countries seized the opportunity to apply for the DIGITbrain Open Call, in order to get funded at the implementation of their individual digital twin experiment. A total of 100.000 Euros funding will now be available for every use case experiment.

The geographical spread of applications<sup>2</sup> reflects the active engagement of the DIHs and their respective

innovation ecosystems, also encompassing applications coming from organisations established in newer European Member States, Associated Countries and the UK.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Noticeably, the origin of each proposal is driven by the Country where the manufacturing end-user is established and where the Digital Twin is implemented.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 952071

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Third Parties were eligible for epplication, when they are legally constituted and established in the European Member States, Associated Countries or the United Kingdom. To see Horizon 2020 country profiles, go to: (https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/statistics/framework-programme-facts-and-figures/horizon-2020country-profiles en)



Beside the glaring and strong will of SMEs and Mid-Caps to innovate the manufacturing sector, the Open Call's success is also due to the multi-layered work of DIGITbrain's European DIHs going at same pace in a collaborative fashion. START 4.0 (Italy), IMR, (Ireland), Itainnova (Spain), Innomine (Hungary), DIGIT (Denmark), SMACC (Finland), the Technical Core Partners and the Innovation Accelerator CTA, responsible for Cascade Funding, have provided qualified advice from matchmaking over proposal writing, up to technical consulting for each use case, also enabling cross border consortia for wider impacts while nurturing new commercial relationships.

## What's next?

Proposals selection, led by CTA and involving 16 Independent Evaluators, will take two months, from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, including the eligibility check process in the first two weeks. The contracting process with Third Parties will take one further month, from 1st to 30th September 2021. After that, selected beneficiaries will take up work on their experiments for the following 12 months, being able to count on DIHs' technical and business support along experiments design, implementation and exploitation, in order to maximise their impact.

On every Open Call, DIGITbrain will add 7 new highly innovative experiments, bringing together at least one technology provider and a manufacturing end-user, each implementing an individual use case-based Digital Twin. Experiments can cover the manufacturing sector at large, including for example discrete manufacturing, continuous production, or construction.

## Seize your opportunity and apply for our second Open Call to be launched on March 2022!

Find more information online: <u>www.digitbrain.eu</u>

Media Contact: Andrea Hanninger Andrea.hanninger@cloudsme.eu Questions about the Open Call? Get in contact: www.digitbrain.eu/open-calls opencall@digitbrain.eu

