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DIH² Network Convention

Date

May 10, 2023

Time

9:00 AM – 17:30 PM CEST

Location

Thon Hotel EU
Wetstraat/Rue de la loi 75
1040 | Brussels (Belgium)

Registration

Register online [here](#)

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1 DIH² NETWORK CONVENTION: INTRODUCTION

The DIH² Network is hosting its 3rd Convention. This event will bring together European DIHs, regional authorities as well as representatives from the European institutions to explore and exchange on the role of robotics in boosting the agility of manufacturing in the European industry.

The participants will learn from the experience of other DIHs that have successfully managed to design follow-up programmes for the beneficiaries of the DIH² network open calls. Attendees will also learn about upcoming European funding opportunities on robotics and will have the opportunity to network and explore potential collaborations for future projects and beyond.

The agenda will be broken down into 4 key blocks, namely:

- **Initiatives of the European Commission for DIH | Session from 9:45 to 10:15**

A representative from the European Commission will present the current strategy for enhancing the role of DIHs in boosting the digital transformation of their local companies.

- **Role of DIH² in advancing the digitization of manufacturing industry | Session from 10:15 to 11:00**

This session will provide an overview of the journey of the DIH² to build a dynamic ecosystem at international and regional level. The DIH² tools and services will be presented.

- **Inspiring stories of our members | Session from 11:30 to 12:30**

The members of DIH² network will present their involvement in the network and how it has supported them to build their regional and international brand among the manufacturing industry.

- **Upcoming funding opportunities and brokerage | Session from 14:00 to 17:30**

Are you looking for potential partners for future European projects? Learn about future European funding opportunities, take the opportunity to participate in the pitch session and explore potential partnerships with other DIHs and regional authorities in the networking session.

The attendees are also invited to join the BOWI Convention on the next day (May 11, 2023). Learn more about the BOWI Convention [here](#).

About DIH²

DIH² believes in the power of robotics to transform the agility of manufacturing in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and drive economic growth across the European Union. Our role is to facilitate the connections that will enable agile production in factories where speed and versatility are essential to satisfy customer demand. Learn more about the DIH² network [here](#).

2 DIH² NETWORK CONVENTION: AGENDA

May 10, 2023 | Thon Hotel EU | Brussels, Belgium

9:00 - 9:30

Welcome coffee and registration

9:30 - 9:45 Welcome

Ali Muhammad

9:45 - 10:15 The role of DIH² network in European ecosystem

Lucilla Sioli
Director Artificial Intelligence and Digital Industry
European Commission

10:15 - 11:00 DIH² Network activities

Ali Muhammad

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30

Panel discussion presenting the best practices and success of DIH² members

Moderator: **Mayte Carracedo**

Lise-Ann Sheahan
Irish Manufacturing Research, **Ireland**

Borut Zrim
Pomurski Tehnoloski Park, **Slovenia**

Frantisek Duchon
National Centre of Robotics, **Slovakia**

Zavisa Gordic
Elektrotehnicki Fakultet Univerzitet U Beogradu, **Serbia**

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch break

14:00 - 15:00 Brokerage pitch by DIH and regional agencies (5' pitch) and wrap-up session

Moderator: Representative from a Regional Authority

15:00 - 16:00 Upcoming funding opportunities in robotics for manufacturing

Antonio Louro and Lucía Franco

16:00 - 17:30 Parallel session 1
Networking and brokerage activity

Parallel session 2
Co-creation workshop for EU calls on robotics

Next day

BOWI Convention

3 GET INVOLVED: PREPARE YOUR PARTICIPATION

All participants are invited to take an active role in the session *Upcoming funding opportunities and brokerage session / Session from 14:00 to 17:30*. The attendees can actively participate in one or both of the following sessions:

- **Participate in the pitch [14:00 – 15:00]**

What is the pitching session?

- The pitch should have a focus on robotics.
- You should briefly present your institution and provide a clear call to action including any of the following:
 - o Search for future collaborations.
 - o Participation in future funding calls: identification of the call, your role and how you could contribute to the future proposal and what partners are you looking for. Priority will be giving to the following calls:
 - [HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01: Hop on Facility](#)
 - [HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-07-01: Excellence Hubs](#)
 - Interreg calls
 - Technical calls related to robotics
- A maximum 5 min. presentation per pitch.
- 2 slides possible per pitch.
- Only DIHs, regional authorities or similar entities are eligible to present.
- Members and non-members of the DIH² network are invited to participate. For the DIH² members, priority will be given to the new DIHs of the network.

How to apply for a pitching slot?

- Upon your registration, make sure you select the option to participate in this session and describe shortly your pitch.
- Only the participants that provide a relevant description related to robotics will be selected to participate.
- The selected participants will be informed approximately seven days before the event; you will be provided with a template to prepare your presentation.
- **Important:** if you wish to participate in the pitch session, please **register and select the pitch session by April 26**.

- **Participate in the brokerage session [16:00 – 17:30]**

Two parallel sessions will take place, you can choose between:

Parallel session 1: Co-creation workshop on EU funding calls on robotics:

What is the co-creation workshop?

- An interactive workshop with a reduced group of participants and moderated by an expert.
- The workshops will be related to the EU funded calls presented in the session *Upcoming funding opportunities in robotics for manufacturing / 15:00 – 16:00*, namely:
 - o [HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06-01: Hop on Facility](#)
 - o [HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-07-01: Excellence Hubs](#)
 - o Interreg calls
 - o Technical calls related to robotics
- The objective of the workshop is to explore the possibilities to build potential proposals; an active participation is expected by the attendees by providing details on the role and contributions of your entity in the proposal.
- Only DIHs, regional authorities or similar entities are eligible to participate in this session.

How to apply for the co-creation workshop?

- Upon your registration, please select the option to take part in this session and describe your interest to participate in the calls. **Important:** if you wish to participate in this session, please register and select the co-creation session **by April 26**.
- Only the participants that provide a relevant justification of their interest in the EU funded calls will be selected to participate.
- The selected participants will be informed approximately seven days before the event; you will receive some preparatory material before the workshop.

Parallel session 2: Networking and brokerage activity:

Free networking activity; you are encouraged to interact with any of the participants. Make sure to participate in the pitch session (14:00 – 15:00) to capture the attention of the audience and increase your chances to take the most out of this event.

4 REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL COSTS (ONLY FOR REGIONAL AUTHORITIES)

Regional authorities participating in the event can benefit from travel reimbursement based on the following conditions:

1. **The interested regional authorities should contact** Arturo Ibáñez at arturo.ibanez@fundingbox.com to notify their interest to apply for the reimbursement of travel costs. They will receive further information via email.
2. Upon verification of the requirements, the regional authority will be requested to sign a short **Memorandum of Understanding** to set the conditions for the reimbursement.
3. An overview of the **reimbursing conditions are the following**:

The reimbursement cost will be done based on the use of unit costs for travel, accommodation and subsistence costs under European Commission requirements established in the following decision: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/unit-cost-decision-travel_en.pdf

The calculation of reimbursement regarding the travel costs will be made based on statements completed on the template attached to the Memorandum of Understanding by attendees and the "Commission Decision of 12.1.2021 authorising the use of unit costs for travel, accommodation and subsistence costs under an action or work programme under the 2021-2027 multi-annual financial framework".

After the date of the event, we will ask each of the attendees to complete the document with the following data:

1. Departure place
2. The number of kilometers - the **one-way distance** between the departure and arrival point
3. A clear indication of transport means - rail or airplane.
4. A number of nights (**max. 2**).
5. A number of traveling days (**max. 3 from the 09/05/2023 to 11/05/2023**) - subsistence costs are provided as an amount per 24-hour period (not a calendar day)
6. Hours of the trip.

The amount of reimbursement will be a summary of 3 types of costs; (1)Travel - based on the number of km, (2)Accommodation and (3) Subsistence:

1. Travel - based on the number of km:

The unit cost to be paid depends on the distance between the place of departure and the place of arrival (Brussels). The appropriate unit cost for a return trip will be determined by comparing the distance declared to the distance bands listed in the table above (travels above 400 km).

All distances are to be measured using either the rail or flight calculator at the following [website](#).

Distance Band (in km) ¹¹	Amount in EUR per return trip
400-600	196
601-800	209
801-1200	221
1201-1600	230
1601-2000	295
2001-2500	343
2501-3500	433
3501-4500	527
4501-6000	637
6001-7500	720
7501-10000	961
10001-Max	1.101

11. This is the one-way distance between the departure and arrival point, corresponding to the amount for the return journey.

For Inter Membership States journeys below 400 km the following calculation will apply:

(Travel only by land (between 50 and 399 km), based on the number of km - rates for inter-Member State travel):

No connection below 400 km
 "normal" train connection
 High speed train

5.3 Amounts for Inter-Member States return journeys between 50 and 400 km (EUR)

MS	AT	BE	BG	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
AT				58	65						64	58	58		58										
BE					82						82						50		82	58					
BG								37				36	26									17			
CZ	58				65						64	36	26							20		19		37	21
DE	65	82		65		76					82	65			65		82		65	65				65	
DK					76													76					76		
EE																22		22							
EL			37																						
ES											82										54			55	
FI																									
FR	64	82		64	82				82						82		82		82						
HR	58		36	36	65								36		50							36		37	
HU	58		26	26										50						26		26		37	26
IE																									
IT	58				65					82	50	50												50	
LT							21.5											19		20					
LU		50			82					82									82						
LV							21.5									19				20					
NL		82			65	76				82							82					20			
PL	58			20	65							26				20		20							21
PT									53																
RO	58		17	19								36	26							20					21
SE						76				54.7															
SI	58			37	65							37	37		50										37
SK	58			21									26							21		21		37	

Intra Member State travels for Belgium are calculated as 46 EUR per travel.

Amounts for intra-Member State return journeys by land between 50 and 400 km

Country	Amount in EUR per return trip
AT	60
BE	46

- Accommodation:** per night in Belgium is **137 EUR/night**.
- Subsistence:** the daily rate for Belgium is **102 EUR**. Subsistence costs are provided as an amount per 24-hour period (not a calendar day).

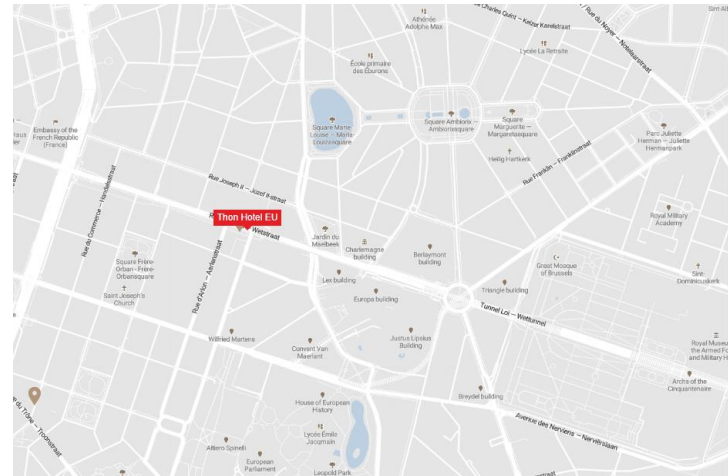
Further description of the reimbursement of travel costs will be provided to the eligible regional authorities.

5 VENUE AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

Venue

Thon Hotel EU | Wetstraat/Rue de la loi 75, 1040 – Brussels

View the location [here](#).



Hotels close to the venue

- **Thon Hotel EU** | [Wetstraat/Rue de la loi 75, 1040, Brussels](#)
- **Courtyard by Marriott Brussels EU** | [Rue Joseph II 32, 1000, Brussels](#)
- **Aloft Brussels Schuman** | [Pl. Jean Rey, 1040, Brussels](#)
- **Hotel NH Brussels EU Berlaymont** | [Bd Charlemagne 11/19, 1000, Brussels](#)
- **Martin's Brussels EU** | [Bd Charlemagne 80, 1000, Brussels](#)
- **Holiday Inn Brussels - Schuman, an IHG Hotel** | [Rue Breydel 20/24, 1040, Brussels](#)

Parking

- **Parking Indigo Bruxelles Thon** | [Rue de Trèves 120, 1040, Brussels](#)
- **Interparking Loi Wet** | [Rue de la Loi 85, 1040, Brussels](#)

Transport

- Closest metro station to the venue: [Maalbeek](#)
- From/to Brussels airport by public transport:

You can take a train from Brussel airport to the Station “Brussel-Schuman” ([Rue de la Loi, 1040 Bruxelles, Belgium](#))
The travel with the train is 15 min. From the train station you can walk to the venue (5 min.) or take the metro at the station “[Schuman](#)” to “[Maalbeek](#)” (1 stop, 1 min.).

6 BOWI CONVENTION: MAY 11, 2023



Website: Register [here](#) for the BOWI event.

About: Boosting Widening Digital Innovation Hubs project has allowed the provision of joint services to local SMEs by two DIHs located in different regions. The event will present the methodology, tools and success stories to foster interregional collaboration between DIHs.

Description:

As part of the Digitising European Industry Strategy, BOWI contributed to ensure that any business in Europe has access to a Digital Innovation Hub and also received support from other DIHs outside their region.

The project has been addressing the challenge that knowledge, expertise and some of the technological capacities promoted under I4MS and SAE initiatives are not available for European industry at large. Within BOWI DIHs from different regions have been collaborating through joint highly innovative cross-border experiments.

The vision of the collaboration between DIHs in BOWI, similar to the one of the EDIHs, is to improve the competitiveness of the regions by more efficient and effective use of regional capacities. Therefore BOWI explored the mechanisms that connect hubs from widening regions with other DIHs, by encouraging the creation of corridors or collaboration avenues that go beyond the ad-hoc collaboration.

The event will present the results of the project, the tools and methodologies that have been developed to forge the collaboration between DIH. First-hand information will be shared by the DIHs participating in the programme, sharing their success story, lessons learned and tips to collaborate with other DIHs. The session will include a hands-on workshop to create your own recipe to establish a fruitful and long-lasting collaboration with other (E)DIHs.

The event will facilitate networking opportunities. If you are an DIH or an EDIHs this event will contribute to explore the available opportunities for DIHs collaboration, find funding and inspiration.

May 11, 2023 | Thon Hotel EU | Brussels, Belgium

8:30	Registration/coffee
09:00	Welcome, Civitta, Project Coordinator
09:10	Keynote speech from EC representatives - DG CONNECT (Malgorzata Nikowska, Head of Unit)
09:30	Project presentation. Achievement - CIVITTA
09:45	Presentation on BOWI tools – Maurits Butter, TNO
10:15	Coffee break
10:45	Success stories on DIHs collaboration - moderated by Mayte Carracedo, FBOX <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marius Apostu, FIT DIH• Manuela Azevedo, Produtech• Miroslav Janak, DIH Technicom• Thorsten Hülsmann, DIH Dortmund
11:45	Q&A
12:00	Introduction to the BOWI coaching programme for corridor building – Maria Roca, FBOX
12:10	Workshop: Hands on corridor building. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10' Introduction to the session<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 6 groups○ 1 facilitator from the team○ 1 rapporteur (audience)per team• 20' Group discussion• 5' Final presentation of results by rapporteurs.
13:30	Networking lunch

7 CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE DIH² NETWORK CONVENTION

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