

# A MANUFUTURE-AT TECHNOLÓGIAI PLATFORM OSZTRÁK SZOMSZÉDAINKNÁL

## NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM MANUFUTURE-AT. AN INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE AUSTRIAN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

*Kuhn Alexandra\*, Alexander Pogány\*\**

### SITUATION IN AUSTRIA

The Austrian manufacturing industry is facing several changes and challenges, such as globalization and international competition, shortage of resources and environmental pollution, technological change and speed of innovation, climate change as well as demography with consumer behaviours, ageing of society and the labour market. The Austrian manufacturing Industry generates with about 640.000 employees in 29.000 companies a gross value of about € 48,3 billion with an export rate of 56% .

Research in the field of production technologies is crucial to modernize the production processes, to create high-value added products, and to strengthen the competitiveness of the Austrian industry. Furthermore it is necessary to give Austria a better profile in the European landscape.

### CONCLUSIONS FOR AUSTRIA

Thematic research fields in production technologies have to be defined by relevant stakeholders from both, industrial and academic partners. The definition of national thematic foci to create scientific capacities with EU-relevance in Austria as well as more co-operations with international partners is of particular importance. According to this, more strategic funding and governance is needed. MANUFUTURE-AT and the Research Initiative "Smart Production" should meet these requirements.

### MANUFUTURE-AT SET UP

MANUFUTURE-AT was founded in November 2010. Owners of the platform are the Austrian association of the Machinery and Metalware Industry (FMMI) and the association of the Austrian Electrical and Electronic In-

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\*alexandra.kuhn@bmvit.gv.at

\*\*alexander.pogany@bmvit.gv.at

dustry (FEEI). The FMMI and the FEEI are among the top-performers of the manufacturing industry in Austria. 2009 both industrial sectors achieved more than 38 billion € production value. MANUFUTURE-AT addresses the following core sectors: mechanical and plant engineering, precision technology and control engineering with 82.000 employees and 2.200 companies with investments for R&D of 590 m € and 7000 jobs in R&D.

Partner of the Austrian Technology Platform MANUFUTURE-AT is the Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT).

### MANUFUTURE-AT TASKS

- 1) Establishment of general conditions to encourage innovation and to strengthen the R&D-position in Austria
- 2) Improvement of technology transfer with a special focus on SMEs
- 3) Assembling of interdisciplinary research co-operations
- 4) Co-ordination of regional activities and linking-up of industrial and academic institutions
- 5) Enhancement of co-operations with strategic partners in the surrounding of MANUFUTURE-EU
- 6) Evaluation of national research topics.
- 7) Networking for Austrian stakeholders
- 8) Contribution to relevant decision processes in NMP

### MANUFUTURE-AT WORKPROGRAMME 2011

The classification and analysis of market studies and other relevant studies as well as technology scouting is one of the main tasks of the technology platform MANUFUTURE-AT. Furthermore the installation of national working groups with the long term goal to set up a national Strategic Research Agenda is of high importance. In autumn 2011 MANUFUTURE-AT will organise a conference to strengthen international visibility and networking among the Austrian stakeholder.