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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI







INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING NETWORKING CONFERENCE September 25, 2013, EMPA Academy, Dübendorf

#### WHAT:

- In October 2012, Switzerland and Sweden launched the *high technology platform Swiss-Swedish Innovation Initiative (SWII)*
- Next SWII activity is the *Innovative Manufacturing Networking Conference (IMNC),* which matches the R&D heaviest Swiss and Swedish MNEs, SMEs and academia with the aim to launch joint market oriented research (a bilateral call for joint applied R&D projects will be presented at this event)
- In February 2013, a similar high profile networking conference was successfully organized on the topic of innovative software with a very promising result
  - 90 high profile participants from organizations such as ABB, Ericsson, Kudelski Group, Saab, RUAG, IBM, Ascom, ETH, Chalmers
  - 135 carried out one-to-one meetings onsite
  - Strong increase of Swiss and Swedish R&D project applications that were submitted in April 2013, which is an increase with 700% in comparison to previous years

SWII is planning to open a new call for <u>project outlines in the fall of 2013</u> and one promotion event will be in Manufacturing. As this is partly in line with PF+ the SWII Steering Committee has decided to set aside a number of seats at the Manufacturing promotion event for participants from PF+ member countries outside CH-SE. This was mentioned at the PRO FACTORY PLUS Working Group meeting in Vienna in May 2013 and the reaction from the Working Group members was very positive. We would therefor ask you to inform suitable SMEs and other interested potential project partners of this possibility.

<u>Participation is free of change</u>. Reservations has also been done for about 25 non-Swiss/Swedish participants from PF+ countries (we expect an audience of 100 people, including large manufacturing companies like Saab, Swatch and others). Interested are asked to register on the SWII web on June 20th at the latest and will receive information whether or not their registration can be accepted on July 1st. As projects generated through SWII mainly are offered funding through the different EUREKA programs it is essential that non-CH/SE partners will have possibilities to apply for funding through normal EUREKA funding schemes in their countries.

If you find this offer interesting we kindly ask you to distribute this invitation through your national channels mainly to companies active in the manufacturing sector. For additional information, please contact:

Tomas Aronsson: Andreas Gut: tomas.aronsson@VINNOVA.se andreas.gut@sbfi.admin.ch

### Sign up for IMNC today!

Online registration of your company at: http://swii.org/index.php/imnchome

Deadline for registration: June 20<sup>th</sup> 2013

# WHY IS IMNC OF INTEREST FOR YOU AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF

## • Multinational Enterprise (MNE)?

- IMNC enables you the opportunity to identify and get matched with the most innovative high technology SMEs from Switzerland & Sweden
- Learn more about the available project funding for market oriented Swiss-Swedish R&D projects within the field of innovative manufacturing
- Small or Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME), higher education or research institute?
  - Gives you the opportunity to pitch your next market oriented research project to the R&D heaviest industrial partners in Switzerland and Sweden
  - On top of that, learn more about available funding for your latest R&D project
- Does IMNC sound interesting? Then sign up for the IMNC already today!

### WHEN: September 25, 2013

WHERE: EMPA Academy, Dübendorf, Switzerland

REGISTRATION online on http://swii.org/index.php/events/manufacturing-events/22-manufacturing-event

