

SUPSI

Press release

The Department of Innovative Technologies of SUPSI, inspire AG and ETHZ strengthen their cooperation in the field of intelligent manufacturing processes

Manno, 19 December 2019 - The Department of Innovative Technologies of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) and inspire AG, a Swiss structure for technology transfer to the MEM industry having ETHZ as shareholder, announce a close cooperation in the field of intelligent production processes. The two institutions will form a joint research group also active at SUPSI headquarter in Manno, which will focus on applied research and technology transfer to companies in various fields, including additive manufacturing and digitization of production systems.

Production technologies are facing major changes. New disruptive techniques such as additive manufacturing and digitization in industry (industry 4.0) will lead to revolutionary innovations in production processes and product manufacturing. **The Department of Innovative Technologies of SUPSI and inspire AG** are at the forefront of the Swiss applied research landscape in this field.

In order to support the Swiss industry with advanced solutions to address major changes and in particular the challenges arising from digitization and the introduction of new production processes, the two institutions have decided to improve their synergies by setting up a joint research group in the field of intelligent production processes.

Emanuele Carpanzano, Director of the Department of Innovative Technologies of SUPSI, said: *"The purpose of this agreement is to bring together the technical and scientific expertise between the laboratories of inspire and ETHZ in Zurich and the research institutes of the Department of Innovative Technologies of SUPSI in order to strengthen the network and project opportunities between the north and south of the Alps in the field of manufacturing industry and in particular with regard to production technologies, which represent a key sector for the Swiss economy. In this way, we will be able to further develop and bring to local companies distinctive skills in this area, supporting their capacity for innovation and creation of added value."*

Jürg Krebsler, CEO of inspire, explained: *"In its growth strategy, inspire wants to establish a connection with the Universities of Applied Sciences and other Cantons in order to strengthen the action of technology transfer to companies in Switzerland in the MEM sector. Thanks to its skills and ability to collaborate with the Ticino based companies, the Department of Innovative Technologies of SUPSI is an excellent partner for us."*

This agreement contributes to the strengthening of the relations on the north-south axis and in particular between the Canton of Ticino and Zurich, one of the most important and competitive metropolitan areas in the world. The Department of Finance and Economy (DFE) also welcomed the agreement, as explained by **Stefano Rizzi**, Director of the DFE Economic Division: *"The collaboration between SUPSI-DTI and ETHZ inspire in the field of production systems is in line with the cantonal strategy of intensifying cooperation on the Ticino-Zurich axis. The latter, which began in 2019 with the participation to the Greater Zurich Area, is being further strengthened thanks to the Ticino application for the Switzerland Innovation Park (SIP) as a hub associated to Zurich. This new collaboration by SUPSI further strengthens the national and international position of the Canton of Ticino which, according to the Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2019, ranks second after Zurich among 238 European regions in terms of innovation."*

The importance of this agreement for SUPSI was also highlighted by **Franco Gervasoni**, SUPSI General Director: *"This agreement is fully in line with the development of SUPSI strategy, which aims at strengthening the connection to the north as well as promoting the applied research and technology transfer activities in favor of local companies."*

SUPSI, Department of Innovative Technologies

The Department of Innovative Technologies deals with the engineering sciences and applications in the education and research fields. The Department's research institutes and laboratories guarantee the transfer of know-how to the regional industrial and economic sector.

More information: www.supsi.ch/dti

inspire AG

inspire AG is a leading national research institute co-financed by the Swiss Confederation. Its mission is to transfer the production know-how acquired through research activities at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich to Swiss industry.

More information: www.inspire.ethz.ch

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