Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

on the future collaboration in the framework of **European Digital Innovation Hubs (eDIH)**

between



Further committed clusters









Czech Republic

Serbia

United Kingdom

Germany

Between the following European Digital Innovation Hubs

- DEDIHCATED BFC, represented by the consortium leader
 Pôle Véhicule du Futur, located at 15 rue Armand Japy, 25461 Etupes, France represented by Marc Becker, President
- 2. **DIHNANO**, represented by the consortium leader

Pôle TES, 8 rue Leopold Sédar Senghor, Campus EffiScience, 14460 Colombelles, France represented by Magali Scelles, Directeur and the WP Leader

NextMove, 50, rue Ettore Bugatti, Bâtiment 3, 76800 Saint-Etienne du Rouvray, France represented by Marc Charlet, Cluster Manager

- DIH 4 Global Automotive, represented by the consortium leader
 MOBINOV Associação para o cluster automóvel, Avenida D. Afonso Henriques, 1825 4450-017 Matosinhos, Portugal, represented by Fernando Machado, CEO
- 4. **DIHGIGAL Digital Innovation Hub of the Galician Industry,** represented by the consortium leader

CEAGA – Fundación Cluster de Empresas de Automoción de Galicia located at Edificio Administrativo Zona Franca 1ª Planta, 36210, Vigo, Spain, represented by Alberto Cominges, Cluster Manager

as well as the following Automotive, Transport, and Mobility Clusters

- 1. **Moravskoslezský Automobilový klastr, z.s, Ostrava (Autoklastr)**, located at Studentská 6202/17, 708 00 Ostrava-Poruba, Czech Republic
- 2. **Automobilski klaster Srbije AC Serbia**, located at Majke Jevrosime 9, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia, and represented by Igor Vijatov, Cluster Manager
- 3. **North East Automotive Alliance Limited**, located at Washington Business Centre, 2 Turbine Way, Sunderland, SR5 3NZ, United Kingdom and represented by Paul Butler, Chief Executive Officer
- 4. **AutomotiveDIALOG c/o WFG Heilbronn**, located at Koepffstraße 17, 74076 Heilbronn, Germany and represented by Patrick Dufour, Managing Director

Afterwards individually called PARTY or mutually called PARTIES.

Except Pôle TES (France), all clusters are already cooperating in the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

This Non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 21 February 2022.

Preamble

The European Union identified the digital transformation of the economy as key for European companies to remain competitive. European Digital Innovation Hubs (eDIHs) are one-stop-shops supporting companies, especially SMEs, and other stakeholders in implementing digitalisation with regard to their business/production processes, products or services using digital technologies, by providing access to technical expertise and experimentation, to innovation and financing services, to training and skills development. eDIH shall have a local and European function¹.

In support to European actors, the European Union launched the call for proposals "European Digital Innovation Hubs (DIGITAL-2021-EDIH-01)" to select and to support outstanding consortia for future eDIHs. The eDIHs mentioned on the first page all submit a proposal and commit through this MoU to collaboration within the eDIHs.

Purpose and Scope

The PARTIES will cooperate to facilitate the cooperation between their respective eDIHs and further clusters with the aim to ensure the European dimension of their services and work through such as

- Networking,
- Know-how sharing and joint awareness raising activities
- Services and trainings,
- Mutualisation of expertise and testing and experimentation facilities for SMEs,
- European cooperation projects between SMEs or eDIH themselves,
- And all other activities with European added value.

Potential MUTUALLY PROPOSED TASKS are the following

MoU Task 1: Joint EDIH services	Scope of Task: The Parties may focus on expanding the joint EDIH services. The aim is to support companies to grow their digital capacities and extend their businesses in international markets. We offer different kinds of joint services which help SMEs' digital transformation, and we raise companies' level of digital maturity in the market. We will co-create the EDIH service portfolio together.		
	Responsibilities of Task: The Parties may work together to identify research and development opportunities of European scope. Liability limitation of Task: Each collaborating Party may continue to develop theirEDIH service independent of the joint tasks.		
MoU Task 2: Joint Funding: exploring potential project portfolio with other EU	Scope of Task: The Parties may explore opportunities and suggest concrete collaborations in the form of projects, business networking and knowledge sharing, leading to joint proposals for funding in the EU (Horizon Europe Programme). Furthermore, the Parties may present the joint proposals to other partner candidates, EU brokerage, networking events, and/or other forums, with the goal of successful funding approval		

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=70324

instruments	from the respective organizations. Responsibilities of Task: The Parties may facilitate introduction and investigation of high potential project topics, and together invite potential parties/partners/affiliates to join the proposals. Liability limitation of Task: Each collaborating Party may develop bilateral relationships with other entities.
MoU Task 3 Training programs (potential EDIH	Scope of Task: The Parties' aim is to increase digital skills of SMEs employees, university students and postgraduates, to enhance the digital transformation of companies targeted by both Consortia.
service collaboration)	Responsibilities: The Parties will envisage the exchange of competencies by ensuring the availability of expert professors and teachers both from the Academicand Industrial world belonging to each Consortium that can hold classes.
	Liability limitation of Task: Each collaborating Party may continue to develop training programs independent of the joint tasks.
MoU Task 4	Scope of Task: The Parties may jointly organize networking and promotional events
Matchmaking and Dissemination events (potential collaboration EDIH	to facilitate the access of targeted SMEs to the Parties and to enhance networkingactivities with other European Innovation Hubs. Responsibilities: The Parties may jointly plan dissemination events or give supportto the other Party to enlarge the number of Participants.
service)	Liability limitation of Task: Each collaborating Party may continue to plan dissemination activities independent of the joint tasks.
MoU Task 5	Scope of Task: One Party may provide, accordingly to a predefined plan and set conditions and costs, access to the test bed facilities to the other
Pilots and Test beds (potential collaboration EDIH	Party that misses such facilities, that might be physical or accessible in the Cloud. Partners can conveyon RDI environment opportunities of Parties to companies in their own area.
service)	Responsibilities: The Parties may jointly plan dissemination events or give supportto each other to enlarge the number of Participants.
	Liability limitation of Task: Each collaborating Party will carry out testing activities independent of joint tasks.

These tasks may be fully developed by PARTIES wishing to participate in a joint task force to discuss further development and opportunities for cooperation.

Definitive cooperation actions may involve all or only several of the signing PARTIES.

Collaboration and responsibilities

The PARTIES will collaborate on broadly applicable relationship models based on collaboration agreements that are largely common in anticipation of potentially conducting EU-projects.

Each PARTY appoints a person as the official contact and in charge of the coordination of joint activities within this MoU. The details of forming specific engagements, projects, or activities, if any are formed, will be separately agreed between the concerned PARTIES.

Terms of Understanding

The term of this MoU starts with the signature of the PARTIES and lasts for a duration of 5 years.

It may be extended upon written mutual agreement. It shall be reviewed asneeded to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions. Each PARTY may immediately terminate this MoU upon written notice to the other PARTIES without penalties or liabilities.

Financial arrangements

Each PARTY of this MoU is responsible for its own (and those of its affiliated entities, if any) expenses related to this MoU. There will not be an exchange of funds between the PARTIES for tasks or actions conducted under this MoU.

Disclaimer

This MoU is an expression of interest and is not intended to create or establish a legally binding contractual relationship between the PARTIES with respect to the subject matter in discussion. The PARTIES have no resulting obligations until such time as the they enter into definitive agreements which include terms and conditions that are mutually acceptable to the Parties.

The PARTIES are independent contractors, neither PARTY shall have any right or authority to assume or create any obligation on behalf of one or more other PARTIES or to bind one or more other PARTIES to any contract, agreement, or undertaking with any third PARTY. Nothing in this MoU shall be construed to create a partnership, joint venture, employment, or agency relationship.

Neither PARTY shall have the right to assign to any third Party any or all its rights and obligations under this MoU without prior written consent of the other PARTIES, and any purported assignment contrary to this provision shall be void and of no effect.

This MoU consists of the entire understanding between the PARTIES with respect to the subject matter hereof and shall supersede any other oral or written communication relating thereto and may be amended only in writing executed by the authorized signature of each respective PARTY. The PARTIES may execute this MoU in counterparts, which taken togetherwill constitute one instrument.

This MoU is open to further eDIH interested in collaborating with the initial signees.

Partner Pôle Véhicule du Futur

Legal representative	Marc Becker, President
Address	15 rue Armand Japy
	25461 Etupes / France
Site Web	www.vehiculedufutur.com/en/
Name of eDIH	DEDIHCATED BFC
Role in eDIH	Consortium leader

Pôle Véhicule du Futur (PVF) is one of the four automotive, mobility and transport related French competitiveness clusters. PVF brings together about 500 members of which most are SMEs. The cluster is active on the following topics: Powertrain electrification, Hydrogen - Fuel cell, Connected autonomous vehicles, Mobility as a service, Design, materials and recycling, Industrial performance, and Industry of the future. PVF accompanies its members in their innovation, modernisation, and digitalisation processes.

Pôle Véhicule du Futur is presiding member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

Pôle Véhicule du Futur is the coordinator of DEDIHCATED BFC, the regional European Digital Innovation Hub set up in the Bourgogne Franche Comté region in France. This is the first French industrial region by share of employees in industry. The region is characterised by many industrial SMEs in sectors like automotive and mechanical industry, nuclear and renewable energy, aerospace and microtechnology, agri-food which will be the main sector concerned by Digital transformation. DEDIHCATED BFC will thus focus on Manufacturing and Supply Chain. It is led by the Pole Véhicule du Futur (Automotive and Mobility cluster) and gathers partners of the regional ecosystem involved in digital transformation of SMEs: other sector bases clusters (agri-food, aerospace and microtechnology, energy) or organisations (mechanical, electronics), chamber of commerce and industry, academic labs.

Etupes, 21 February 2022

Marc Becker

President

Pôle Véhicule du Futur

Pôle Véhicule du futur Technoland 15 rue Armand Japy 25461 ETUPES Cedex

Tél, 03 89, 32 76 44 - Fex 03 89 32 76 45

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NextMove

Legal representative	Marc CHARLET
Address	50, rue Ettore Bugatti – Bâtiment 3, 76800 Saint-Etienne du Rouvray, FRANCE
Site Web	https://nextmove.fr/en
Name of eDIH	DIHNAMO
Role in eDIH	WP Leader

Short description of Cluster

NextMove (ex-Mov'eo) is a French Automotive & Mobility cluster located in Paris region and Normandy, gathering 600+ members (380 SME's, 150 Large Companies, 35 Research Organisations, Universities, Technology Centers, 50 Other Ecosystem Actors). Our objective: Build the "Mobility Valley", a European and International reference of innovative and responsible mobility for the future. Since it was created, NextMove has registered more than 500 R&I projects involving 1500 partners.

Short description of eDIH

DIHNAMO (Digital Innovation Hub Normandy Advanced MObility) is Normandy's one-stop shop for digital transformation, specialised in connected, safe and sustainable mobility. It is co-led by TES and NextMove competitiveness clusters and its main mission is to support regional SMEs, mid-caps and local authorities in their digital transformation by federating the territory's innovation ecosystem, from research actors to application clusters.

NextMove is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

PARIS, 18 February 2022

Marc Charlet, Cluster Manager, NextMove

50, rue Ettore Bugatti 76800 Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray SIRET: 491 767 257 00034 - Code APE: 9499Z

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Magali Scelles, Directeur, Pôle TES

ApTES

Pôle de Compétitivité Transactions Electroniques Sécurisées 8 rue Léopold Sédar Senghor Campus Effiscience - 14460 COLOMBELLES

Tél.: 02 31 53 63 30 - contact@pole-tes.com Siret: 487 429 896 00029

Partner MOBINOV – Associação para o cluster automóvel

Legal representative	Fernando Machado, CEO
Address	Avenida D. Afonso Henriques, 1825
	4450-017 Matosinhos / Portugal
Site Web	https://www.mobinov.pt/en
Name of eDIH	DIH 4 Global Automotive
Role in eDIH	Consortium leader

MOBINOV - Automotive Cluster was founded in 2016, to promote the convergence of various players in the national automotive industry, including global manufacturers suppliers, associations and knowledge centers and universities, in order to transform Portugal in a competitive and recognized Automotive Industry in terms of the development of technological solutions and the industrialization of components, modules, systems and vehicles. Our Mission is to promote a sustainable growth and competitiveness of the national automotive industry through greater cooperation and coordination between companies, associations, public administration bodies and SCTN entities.

The Main goals are: reinforce the competitiveness of the automotive sector, promoting the increase of exports and its internationalization and prepare a new cycle of the automotive industry on a trajectory for the "car as a service", and other automotive global trends.

MOBINOV is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN. Actually with 68 members, MOBINOV get the Bronze Excellence Label.

MOBINOV is the coordinator of the Portuguese eDIH candidate "DIH 4 Global Automotive". Main goals of DIH 4 Global Automotive are reinforce the competitiveness of the automotive sector, promoting the increase of exports and its internationalization and prepare a new cycle of the automotive industry on a trajectory for the "car as a service", and other automotive global trends.

Matosinhos, 21 February 2022

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Fernando Machado

CEO

MOBINOV

Partner CEAGA – Fundación Cluster de Empresas de Automoción de Galicia

Legal representative	Alberto Cominges, Cluster Manager
Address	Edificio Administrativo Zona Franca 1ª Planta
	36210 Vigo/ Spain
Site Web	https://www.ceaga.com/en/
Name of eDIH	DIHGIGAL – Digital Innovation Hub of the Galician Industry
Role in eDIH	Consortium leader

CEAGA is the Automotive Cluster of Galicia, northwest region of Spain. With more than 20 years of experience, the cluster brings together 200 member companies with its three main pillars: Stellantis Centre of Vigo, the Galician Automotive Technological Centre (CTAG) and a complete network of suppliers, including service companies, manufacturing companies and technology startups. CEAGA has developed initiatives that bring value to the sector such as the CEAGA Corporate University and the accelerator Business Factory Auto. CEAGA is president of the Cluster Excellence Expert Group, vice-president of EACN and member of the Automotive Skills Alliance.CEAGA is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

CEAGA is the coordinator of the Digital Innovation Hub of the Galician Industry. DIHGIGAL is an initiative which aims at improving the competitiveness of the Galician economy through the promotion of digital transformation and the increase in the technological intensity of the industrial ecosystem, turning current factories into more automated, intelligent, flexible, sustainable, connected, and social plants, with people being the core element. CEAGA is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network, EACN.

Vigo, 21 February 2022

Alberto Cominges

Cluster Manager

CEAGA

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Partner Moravskoslezský Automobilový klastr, z.s, Ostrava (Autoklastr)

Legal representative	Libor Dobeš, Managing Director
Address	Studentská 6202/17, 708 00 Ostrava-Poruba, CZ
Site Web	https://autoklastr.cz/en/
Name of eDIH	
Role in eDIH	

Short description of Cluster

Autoklastr has been founded in 2006. There are 91 cluster members at the moment, that are active in the automotive sector either as a Tier supplier (level 1-3), or service supplier, R&D center, University (6) or high school (5). We focus on human capital development, implementation of the best business practices and research and development activities to increase the local and international collaboration of our members and their competitiveness in the global industry.

Short description of eDIH (if any)

Moravskoslezský automobilový klastr,z.s. (Autoklastr) is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

Ostrava, 21 February 2022

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Dobeš Datum: 2022.02.18 13:25:29 +01'00'	
Libor Dobeš	(Stamp)
Cluster Manager	
Autoklastr	

Partner Automobilski klaster Srbije - AC Serbia

Legal representative	Igor Vijatov, Cluster Manager	
Address	Majke Jevrosime 9	
	11000 Belgrade / Serbia	
Site Web	https://www.acserbia.org.rs/	
Name of eDIH		***
Role in eDIH		

AC Serbia is a network of Serbian companies and institutions that are producing automotive parts and components. AC Serbia was founded in Aug. 2010 (15 members). Today, AC Serbia has 54 members (January 2022), 49 companies and 5 R&D Institutes.

Mission

Connecting business and networking of scientific, development and public institutions will help in creating synergies and launching joint development projects, in reaching the level of quality and creating a recognizable brand. This will also contribute to international competitiveness strengthening of our members.

Vision

AC Serbia acting as the central network of automotive parts and components manufacturers in Serbia, who have become part of international supplier chains.

AC Serbia main goals are:

- Extending connections between Serbian and European automotive industry
- Increase the competitiveness of our members
- Support to our companies to be part of international supply chains of European car producers
- Improve the economic situation within the whole automotive supplier

AC Serbia is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

Belgrade, 21 February 2022

Igor VIJATOV

Cluster Manager

AC Serbia

Partner North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA)

Legal representative	Paul Butler, CEO
Address	Washington Business Centre, 2 Turbine Way
	Sunderland, SR5 3NZ / United Kingdom
Site Web	https://www.northeastautomotivealliance.com/
Name of eDIH	
Role in eDIH	

The North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA) is a not-for-profit, industry led cluster group established to support the sustainable economic growth and competitiveness of the North East automotive sector. Our DIH ambitions are for the North East of England will be a centre of excellence for manufacturing innovation which exploits the synergies across the region for maximum productivity impact and economies of scale. This environment will enable companies to be the best and fastest innovators to enhance their business and regional competitiveness.

NEAA is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

Sunderland, 21 February 2022

Paul Butler (Stamp)

Chief Executive Officer
North East Automotive Alliance

Partner AutomotiveDIALOG c/o WFG Heilbronn

raitilei Automot	10001/12000/	
Legal representative	Patrick Dufour, Managing Director	
Address	Koepffstraße 17	
	74076 Heilbronn / Germany	
Site Web	https://wfgheilbronn.de/automotivedialog.html	
Name of eDIH	4	
Role in eDIH		

AutomotiveDIALOG is a cluster initiative run by the regional development agency Wirtschaftsförderung Raum Heilbronn GmbH. The automotive cluster Heilbronn-Franconia consists of more than 800 companies in the field of the automotive industry, carmakers, suppliers, service providers, and machinery providers combined. As of today, AutomotiveDIALOG has 120 members representing companies, research institutions, and universities. AutomotiveDIALOG is run by a team of four employees and has a long-lasting track record of projects managed successfully. AutomotiveDIALOG's current focus is on supporting companies challenged by the industrial transformation of the automotive industry.

WFG Heilbronn is member of the European Automotive Cluster Network EACN.

Heilbronn, 21 February 2022

Patrick Dufour

Managing Director

AutomotiveDIALOG c/o WFG Heilbronn

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