

The President's Foreword

Dear colleagues,

This September newsletter is again the proof that EACN members are very active, organise events, bring added value to members, and participate in European and nationally funded projects. There is much room for exchanges to find synergies and imagine further actions and projects.

Next week, on 26 and 27 September, the European Commission and ECCP organise the European Cluster Conference 2022 in Prague. Most EACN members will meet for the first time physically, and I'm sure this will give a further boost to our network. EACN has also been invited to present the network during the ECCP Side Event on Cluster Associations and Networks, and to be part of the panel session about 'Future-proofing the Single Market: co-creation of actions to consolidate its resilience, green and digital transitions' on Monday afternoon. This is a great opportunity to increase our visibility at the European Commission as well as towards other clusters. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in Prague!

Yours

Bruno Grandjean, President

Cluster presentations

Pôle Véhicule du Futur

Created in 2005, Pôle Véhicule du Futur (PVF) is today one of four French Pôles de Compétitivité (clusters) in the transport and mobility sector. PVF totals about 500 members, and 265 funded projects for a total budget of more than 1bn€, of which 43 got a European co-funding.



Bruno Grandjean, General Manager of PVF and President of EACN


PVF's missions concern innovation, industrial performance, skills/training, and business development. Innovation focusses on electric vehicles

& powertrain electrification; hydrogen & fuel cell vehicles; connected autonomous vehicles; mobility services; design, materials, and recycling; and Innovative solutions and processes/Industry 4.0.

PVF is also an active player in European co-funded projects such as, e.g., the EACN for Joint Industrial Modernisation Investments project, starting point for EACN as it exists today, the Euroclusters project RESIST, or various projects in several Interreg programmes. And, last but not least, PVF is coordinator of the eDIH DEDIHCATED federating the stakeholders in the French Bourgogne Franche-Comté region.

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Members' lounge

Automotive Cluster Bulgaria awarded with the Bronze Label for Cluster Excellence

Congratulations to EACN member Automotive Cluster Bulgaria who successfully achieved ECEI Cluster Management Benchmarking exercise organised by the European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis (ESCA) of VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH in cooperation with Flaviu Iorgulesco / Romania. This led to the award of the Cluster Management Excellence Label BRONZE.



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CIAC Miting d'Auto 2022

On 22 June 2022, CIAC celebrated the 5th edition of the Miting d'Auto with great success, many experiences, and emotions.

The event was introduced by the President of the CIAC, Mr. Josep Maria Vall. Then, Víctor Küppers, motivational speaker, author, and life coach, gave a lecture on positive psychology and the importance of

attitude towards things, in which he transmitted his enthusiasm and did not leave the public indifferent.

He was followed by a Round Table on mobility, talent, collaboration, industry, and sustainability with David Martín from GEDIA España, S.L., Lluís París from Port de Barcelona, Daniel Crespo of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, and Marc Riera of SEAT, S.A.



Round Table moderated by Josep Nadal, Cluster Manager at CIAC

The Míting d'Auto finished with the unveiling of four CIAC Awards:

- ▲ The award for best industrial productivity for the logistics operator [ROR Operador Logístico](#),
- ▲ The award for the best innovation strategy was attributed to [Innovae](#),
- ▲ The award for the best internationalization plan went to [DOGA](#),
- ▲ And [Elausa](#) received the award for the best automotive company.

M. Hble. Sr. Roger Torrent, Catalan Minister for Business and Employment, closed the event.

[Further information](#)

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Tech Talk MOBINOV & AVL

The Automotive Industry is invited to this international Tech Talk to discuss Cybersecurity and Functional Safety in Autonomous and Connected Vehicles organized by MOBINOV, the Portuguese automotive cluster, in collaboration with AVL and the participation of industry partners.

This Tech Talk will take place online on the 4th of October, from 10h30 to 12h30 CET.

The aim of this event is to show the state of the art regarding autonomous and connected vehicles and go a step deeper in Cybersecurity and Functional Safety, key factors that will determine the speed at which the

autonomous vehicle will reach our streets, roads, and highways.



Register at this free online event, learn more about the current and future trends of the autonomous and connected vehicle, and do not miss the opportunity to address your questions to our experts. [Register here](#) | [More information](#)

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The French Hauts-de-France Region, scene of a strategic international cooperation

From 14-16 September, a delegation of Dutch companies and research institutes in the field of automotive and batteries visited the Hauts-de-France Region to explore bilateral research and business cooperation between the Netherlands and Hauts-de-France. For three days, ARIA Hauts-de-France, Transalley and Nord France Invest hosted the Dutch delegation of no less than 23 people.



*The Dutch delegation at the Novares Group
(©Samuel Dhote)*

Organized by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in France and RAI Automotive Industry NL (Dutch Federation of the Automotive Industry), this visit was more than a one-off event. It is just the beginning of a long-term strategic cooperation that aims at strengthening the links between the Hauts-de-France Region and the Netherlands in order to develop the automotive industry.

A 100% tailor-made programme included a BtoB gathering with nearly 70 participants and the signing of a cooperation agreement to promote and develop our

respective sectors, but also the discovery of major players from the automotive industry:

- ▲ [Transalley technology center](#).
- ▲ [Novares Group](#), a company specializing in the design and production of highly complex components and systems for the automobile.
- ▲ [CRITT M2A](#), a major player in automotive R&D.
- ▲ [Renault group's Maubeuge plant](#) (Manufacture de Maubeuge), one of the group's flagship sites.

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Automotive Suppliers' Day Baden-Württemberg, 30. November 2022

The Automotive Suppliers' Day Baden-Württemberg 2022 will take place on 30 November 2022 at the Neckar Forum Esslingen. The event offers insights into current challenges and opportunities for Baden-Württemberg's automotive suppliers. This year's **focus** will be **on supply chains and the hydrogen economy**. Take the opportunity to network with interesting companies from the Cluster Electric Mobility South-West!

The Automotive Suppliers' Day Baden-Württemberg is jointly organised by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism of the State of Baden-Württemberg and e-mobil BW - the State Agency for New Mobility Solutions and Automotive Baden-Württemberg. You can attend the event on-site or via livestream. [More information and registration](#).

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East Automotive Alliance: An unusual show of industrial automation applications



The Balluff DemoBus

On 2 September, East Automotive Alliance in cooperation with its member BALLUFF from Wrocław, organized a meeting where DemoBus was presented. DemoBus is a campervan created by BALLUFF company, equipped with the latest solutions in industrial automation. After the presentation there were lectures

given by BALLUFF employees and Mr Andrzej Chmielowiec, EngD, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Mechanics and Technology, representing Rzeszów UoT. Lectures concerned the topics of financial aspects for implementing new automation technologies and Predictive Maintenance. The meeting was held at Tarnobrzeg Industrial and Technology Park, managed by East Automotive Alliance and Tarnobrzeg Regional Development Agency. [Further information](#)

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Reminder: The 2nd CIAC Automotive Talent Show will take place on 18 November

This year's Automotive Talent Show will take place on 18 November 2022 at the Circuit de Barcelona – Catalunya. It is a free event with the aim of bringing young talent closer to the automotive industry before entering it, so that students can explore the real challenges and opportunities of the automotive sector.

The event is held at the Circuit de Barcelona – Catalunya and has several spaces, such as a showroom of race teams from universities, a conference room, an exhibition, there will be an awards ceremony, music, raffles, food trucks, and above all a lot of networking.

The event has free admission, but it is possible to collaborate as partner or sponsor.

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2nd edition of the "Electrification Tech Days" by CAAR

The 2nd edition of the "Electrification Tech Days" will take place on 4 and 5 October 2022 at the Palacio de Congressos in Zaragoza.



This innovative event, organized by CAAR, counts with one of the best European companies in benchmarking (A2Mac1) that will share their knowledge. A completely

disassembled EV car (Peugeot e-208) will also be exposed during the two days and will allow all attendees to know first-hand each of the parts that compose it. In addition, during the technical conferences, the current state of the art of the electromobility market will be analysed, how the batteries of the future would look like, new trends on e-powertrain and how autonomous driving will impact steering and braking functions, | [Information and registration](#).

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Forum Hydrogen Business for Climate 2022

Co-organised by Pôle Véhicule du Futur, 500 high-level executives from both public and



private sectors and businesses, as well as politicians, academics, influencers, and start-ups, are expected to meet alongside more than 50 international experts in Montbéliard/France on 8 and 9 November 2022. Participants will contribute to shed light on the hydrogen markets, to foster cooperation between territories, and to initiate and accelerate the deployment of practical solutions. New in 2022: 3 Innovation Labs will help accelerating the H2 transition in France and Europe. [Further information and registration](#) | [in](#)

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Project corner



EUROCLUSTERS Project #2: E-BOOST – Electromobility for the recovery and internationalisation of Small enterprises

Sustainable mobility is a core of the European strategy to accelerate the ecological and digital transition, as the transport sector is a major contributor to GHG emissions. Electricity and green hydrogen both represent two sources of energy not yet exploited enough in all transport modes. Europe is facing at the dawn of neutral-carbon continent and to achieve this

goal and reach a momentum of change E-BOOST Eurocluster will adopt a systemic approach to build a united and skilled ecosystem, ready to develop singular products and services to reach international markets.

The E-BOOST Eurocluster is represented by a strong consortium ensuring a large coverage of electromobility at the European level. The project will focus on building a strong and dynamic platform for electromobility stakeholders to enhance cooperation among the whole electromobility value chain, thus strengthening EU resilience in the Mobility-Transport-Automotive industrial ecosystem. Direct financial and non-financial support to SMEs and clusters towards green and digital transformation will be the cornerstone of the project through seven calls for proposals. The signature of cooperation and business agreements will ensure the development of SMEs solutions at global scale and foster cross-sectoral activities which are key to support their economic growth in the context of a striking economic crises. Mentoring programmes for clusters and SMEs based on the skills gaps identified will be designed and capacity building planned so that markets are prepared for the introduction of new electromobility solutions.

Project partners: [CARA](#) (Lead, FR) , [RAI Automotive Industry NL](#) (NL), [DITECFER District for Railway Technologies, High Speed, Networks' Safety & Security](#) (IT), [North South Logistics & Transport Cluster](#) (PL), [Logistics Initiative Hamburg](#) (GE), [CAAR Aragon Automotive Cluster](#) (SP)

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11 European partners from 3 industrial ecosystems join forces to support SMEs in their transition towards industry 5.0

A consortium formed by 11 partners from 8 different countries (France, Spain, Austria, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Estonia and Greece) including EACN member CEAGA will work during the next 3 years in the European project SURE5.0 "Supporting the smes sUstainability and REsilience transition towards industry 5.0 in the mobility, transport & automotive, aerospace and electronics European ecosystems", supported by the European Commission under the Horizon Europe programme.

The main objective is to support SMEs from the Civil Transportation (MTA and aerospace & defence) and Electronics ecosystems to integrate in their manufacturing processes the industry 5.0 principles, in order to become more human-centric, sustainable and resilient. For this aim, the project will foster the adoption and deployment of advanced technologies as

well as the consideration of social innovation practices that will facilitate their twin transition (digital and green).



Project partners during the Kick-off Meeting in Bordeaux

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Launch of the greenSME project with partner SA&AM

Katowice SEZ, coordinator of the Silesia Automotive & Advanced Manufacturing Cluster, together with 9 other European partners carries out the new European Project "Driving manufacturing SME transformation towards green, digital and social sustainability" (greenSME for short). The greenSME project is implemented under the Horizon Europe programme (HORIZON-CL4-2021-RESILIENCE-01) and has received funding of EUR 4.8 million, including EUR 3.0 million in direct funding for SME.

The manufacturing industry is one of the key drivers of the European economy, whose involvement is essential to achieve the objectives of the Green Deal. The aim of the greenSME project is to strengthen the ability of SMEs to absorb advanced technologies to make them more competitive, climate neutral, maximizing benefits for all social groups, towards a sustainable EU manufacturing industry, characterized by greater adaptability and resilience to the current and future challenges of the industrial sector.

According to the project's vision, this will be achieved through the creation of a greenSME HUB and the development of a SME sustainability transformation pathway.

- ▶ greenSME HUB - will enable the building of a community of innovative SMEs involved in sustainable production. The HUB will be a one-stop-shop, providing stakeholders with a clear view on all the tools, services, and funds available

for their skilling and sustainability deployment within the scope of the project.

- ▶ SME sustainability transformation pathway - the transformation pathway gathers the whole process of guidance that will be provided to the SMEs to support them in their shift towards sustainability. SMEs that have participated in the Sustainability Assessment will be able to apply for a follow-up consultancy service that will provide a tailored Advanced Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP) for each SME.

GreenSME foresees 2 open calls for a SMEs that developed a greenSME sustainability assessment and have prioritised at least one strategic project in line with the type of projects determined in greenSME. Once SME has prioritized a project (and it has been validated by the project consortium) SME will receive financial support to implement the elaborated action plan. The maximum amount to be granted to each SME is 50.000€.

Sounds interesting? We invite you to follow the project's actions on LinkedIn and Twitter and share the information among your manufacturing SMEs on the open calls opportunities! | [in](#) [tw](#)

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Other information

Presentation of 'A New European Innovation Agenda' by the European Commission

In July, the EC presented a new European Innovation Agenda (COM/2022/332 final). This initiative aims at making Europe a leading player on the global innovation scene by enabling the best talent to work closely with companies. [Further information](#)

Results of the 1st Euroclusters call published

The 30 Euroclusters projects have been published. 171 partners from 23 countries will work on the 30 projects, of which 10 are open strand and 20 ecosystem related projects. Both co-funded Mobility-Transport-Automotive strand projects are led by EACN members: RESIST by Pôle Véhicule du Futur (see [Newsletter July 2022](#)), and e-BOOST by CARA (see this newsletter). [Further information](#)

DG Research and Innovation: Synergies guidance is out

On 5th July 2022, the Commission published a practical and user-friendly guidance on new opportunities to maximise the synergies between Horizon Europe and the European Regional Development Fund programmes.


The document covers legal and implementation details of all new opportunities for achieving operational synergies, including for the Seal of Excellence, transfer, cumulative funding, co-funded and Institutionalised Partnerships, Teaming, and upstream/downstream synergies including missions. [Download page](#)


DUT Call 2022 is OPEN.


The purpose of this Call is to support transnational research and/or innovation projects addressing urban challenges to help cities in their transition towards a more sustainable economy and functioning. The challenges are grouped into three themes called Transition Pathways: Positive Energy Districts (PED), the 15-Minute City (15mC) and Circular Urban Economies (CUE). Submission deadline: 21/11/2022 13h00 CET | [Further information](#)


Agenda


 26 – 27 September 2022 | Prague (Czech Republic)
European Cluster Conference 2022 | organised by the Czech Ministry for Industry and Trade, European Commission DG GROW and ECCP | [Information and registration](#)


 28 – 29 September 2022 | online
European R&I Days | organised by the European Commission DG RTD | [Information and registration](#)

 4 October 2022, 10h30 - 12h30 CET | online
Tech Talk 'Cybersecurity and Functional Safety in Autonomous and Connected Vehicles' | organised by Mobinov and AVL | [Register here](#) | [More information](#)


 4 - 5 October 2022 | Zaragoza (Spain)
Electrification Tech Days | organised by CAAR | [Information and registration](#)


 18 – 22 October 2022 | Paris (France)
Paris Automotive Week with
- **Mondial de l'Auto** | [Information and registration](#)
- **Equip'Auto 2022** | [Information and registration](#)
- **Paris Automotive Summit** | [Information and registration](#)

 24–28 October 2022 | Bruxelles (Belgium)/online
European Hydrogen Week | organised by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership | [Information](#)

 8 - 9 November 2022 | Montbéliard (France)
Forum Hydrogen Business for Climate | co-organised by Pôle Véhicule du Futur | [Information and registration](#)

 18 November 2022 | Barcelona–Catalunya (Spain)
2nd CIAC Automotive Talent Show | organised by CIAC
| Contact:  [Ángela Fernández](mailto:angela.fernandez@ciac.es)


 30 November 2022 | Esslingen (Germany)
Automotive Suppliers' Day Baden-Württemberg 2022 | organised by e-mobil bw | [Information](#)

 15-16 December 2022 | Brussels (Belgium) & Online
Infodays and Brokerage Event Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility 2023 | organised by the European Commission | Save the date

Legal notice

This is the internal newsletter of EACN. Input comes from the Executive Board members, the Secretary General as well as from EACN cluster members.

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