

Noordwijk, 28th August 2018

Subject: Invitation to an Information Session for Belgian SMEs about the opportunity to submit a proposal for the ESA Advanced Manufacturing activity framework

We are pleased to invite you to an **Information Session** about the **opportunity for Belgian SMEs** to submit a proposal for “**Assessing the use of Advanced Manufacturing to improve and expand space hardware capabilities**” activity framework. The purpose of this event is to share with you information about the objectives of the activity framework, as well as the steps for proposal submission.

Please find hereafter the details for the information session:

Date: **24th September 2018, 10:30am-13:00pm**
Location: **Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)**
Louizalaan 231 Avenue Louise
1050 Brussels
Belgium

Background

The GSTP (ESA General Support and Technology Programme) activity “Assessing the use of Advanced Manufacturing to improve and expand space hardware capabilities” provides a framework in which small and medium enterprises can assess the possibility of leveraging the use of advanced manufacturing to improve their existing products or expand their product range. A key aspect to this framework is that the **SMEs shall draw from the expertise and know-how of a recognised applied research organisation**, experienced in applying novel advanced manufacturing solutions in different industrial settings.

The main task for the participating SMEs will be to perform an **assessment study** consisting of:

- **Impact analysis** of the use of advanced manufacturing to improve the existing product portfolio or to expand it,
- Selection of 2 or 3 **potential product improvement or expansion opportunities**,
- Preliminary **design, breadboarding and testing** of his breadboard to verify and validate the analysis for the selected opportunities,
- Review of the impact analysis and preparation of a **development and qualification plan**.

The budget for a single project within this activity is up to 250k€, while each project shall be completed within 12 months. If successful, these projects could lead to larger activities.



We hope you will be able to accept our invitation to attend this important session. As participation is limited, please confirm your participation by sending an e-mail to Svenja Pestotnik at Svenja.Pestotnik@esa.int.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to also contact her.

We look forward to welcoming you at the information session on 24th September 2018.

Best regards,

Matthew Bullock
Head of Technology Implementation
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Benjamin Denayer
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