

Manufacturing Technology Platform (MTP) Program

The purpose of this document is to describe the Manufacturing Technology Platform (MTP) program. This document contains three partitions – (1) description of the MTP program; (2) a list of definitions of the five MTPs; and (3) a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs). A sample copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is included as a reference.

Part I: Description of the MTP Program

1. The established manufacturing technology platforms are:
 - a. Sustainability
 - b. Energy Efficiency
 - c. Key Technologies
 - d. Standards
 - e. Education

 2. The regional Leader/Promotors for MTPs are;
 - a. Sustainability – Switzerland, Japan,
 - b. Energy Efficiency - Korea
 - c. Key Technologies – United States
 - d. Standards – EU/Norway, United States
 - e. Education – EU/Norway

 3. A list of definitions of MTPs is described in Part II.

 4. Three or more IMS Regions are required to establish an initiative.

 5. A minimum funding and or resource level of \$1m (U.S.) is recommended to participate in an MTP initiative. This may be in the form of travel costs, costs for information dissemination, management costs, resources, facility and equipment use, or other in-kind contributions.

 6. The minimum duration of an active initiative is 12 months.

 7. Initiative partners will meet a minimum of 2 times per year.

 8. Initiative meetings could be held in conjunction with the IMS ISC meetings.

 9. Funding for MTP initiative meetings/workshops will be provided by each partner or by an IMS Region (if feasible).
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Part II: Definitions of Manufacturing Technology Platforms

1. Sustainability

Sustainable manufacturing is a platform for development of innovative manufacturing technologies which address world wide resources shortages and excess environmental load to enable an environmentally benign life cycle.

2. Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficient manufacturing is a platform for improving efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint in energy utilization for manufacturing and operational processes. The energy efficiency platform will result in reduced manufacturing costs and global warming impact.

3. Key Technologies

Key Technologies is a platform that includes those technologies that will yield a high impact on the next generation of manufacturing. These technologies include Model Based Enterprise, nanotechnology, and Smart materials.

4. Standards

Standards is a platform that will focus on manufacturing research issues that can benefit from standardization to create open manufacturing and product standards that are accessible to everyone and enhance innovation globally. IMS involvement in standards would also focus on key areas where the lack of standards is impeding progress in any of the other MTP areas.

5. Education

Education is a platform for educational programs designed for an information based knowledge worker environment that supports manufacturing in the future. Research listed under this platform will contribute to the development of a coherent vision of manufacturing education across the whole vocational and professional community.

Part III: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1) What are MTPs?

MTPs are intended to be knowledge sharing platforms for researcher groups that are already engaged in a specific R&D domain. These platforms are a means to facilitate exchange of information and to generate new ideas and new research goals. MTPs draw upon the knowledge generated in already running programs in IMS regions: however, they aim to promote global collaboration and to develop a holistic view in a specific domain.

2) What is the difference between an MTP and an MTP Initiative?

MTPs are five generic Manufacturing Technology Platforms that are, identified within the scope of the IMS schema: Sustainability, Energy Efficiency, Key Technologies, Standards, Education. Under each of these MTPs there can be one or more Initiatives in which a number of partners come to work together. The Partners sign a Memorandum of Agreement approved by each participating IMS region.

3) What is new about MTPs vis-à-vis (traditional) R&D projects under IMS?

MTP initiatives are structured to be of complementary scope. MTP initiatives are primarily a means to share knowledge that is generated in IMS regions. Their key objective is to support "joint (global) thinking" in a specific domain. What MTP initiatives can achieve is to bring all relevant experts together to develop a global perspective in a specific domain, and to spark new ideas for R&D. MTPs could thus prove to be an approach that facilitates researcher networking on a broad scale.

4) What are MTPs main deliverables?

Likely outcomes are, joint publications, the stimulation of new collaborative R&D as well as global-level recommendations on standards, skills, and policy.

5) How are MTPs to be financed?

A minimum funding and or resource level of \$1m (U.S.) is recommended to participate in an MTP initiative. This may be in the form of travel costs, costs for information dissemination, management costs, resources, facility and equipment use, or other in-kind contributions.

6) What are Leaders/Promoters?

"Leaders/Promoters" are considered to be the promoters of an MTP. They may initiate work under an MTP and they may act as facilitators for achieving an MTPs objectives.



**Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among Manufacturing Technology Platform (MTP)
Initiative Partners for**

(Enter Initiative Name)

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is made and entered into between the MTP Program Partners, hereinafter referred to as “the Partners”.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this MOA is to establish a level of collaboration/cooperation among the Partners in the following Manufacturing Technology Platform Initiative:

(Describe specific initiative; discuss its importance, and why the collaboration is needed.)

2. Background

(Provide some background information about ongoing R&D activities by each participating Region.)

3. Relationship of the Partners

Partners must be part of a Region represented in the overall IMS Scheme and working on a Manufacturing Technology Initiative that has been sanctioned by IMS.

4. Proprietary Information

During the term of this Agreement, it is expected that the Partners will collaborate in an open R&D environment to the fullest extent possible. Should the collaboration require discussion of proprietary information, the partners may enter into separate Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA) by informing the IMS Regional Secretariats.

5. Review

The Partners of this Agreement will review and align the efforts established under this Agreement on a regular basis, as required.

6. Term and Termination

This Agreement shall continue in full force and effect for two (2) years from the date of the last signature on this Agreement or until the Agreement is terminated. Any Partners may terminate this Agreement by providing ninety (90) days written notice to the other Partners and the IMS Regional Secretariats.

7. Obligation of the Partners

Initiative Partners agreed to meet and review technical accomplishments at least twice a year in conjunction with scheduled IMS ISC meetings. Each Partner or Region, as appropriate, will bear all travel/partner costs incurred by it arising out of its obligations and efforts under this Agreement. **This Memorandum of Agreement is not a contractual obligation between the Partners.**

Partners

Regional Secretariat

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____
(printed/typed)

Name: _____
(printed/typed)

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

By: _____

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