

# Bilbao will host the next General Assembly of the CIRP, the most important international forum in advanced manufacturing

- The 71st General Assembly of the CIRP, the leading organisation in research applied to advanced manufacturing, will be held in mixed format, on-site and online, from 21 to 27 August at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC).
- This year, the organisation of the event will be the responsibility of the IDEKO and Tekniker research centres, the Mondragon University and the University of Zaragoza.
- The General Assembly of the CIRP is an annual event of recognised international prestige in the field of production engineering, which brings together more than 500 frontline international researchers.

**July 19 2022.** For the second time in its history, the General Assembly of the International Academy of Production Engineering (CIRP), the leading international organisation in research applied to advanced manufacturing, again will be held in Spain, specifically in the Basque country, given the importance that the industrial environment and advanced manufacturing has in the territory. On this occasion, the event will take place at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC) in Bilbao, Bizkaia, and will bring together more than 500 researchers from 50 countries throughout the world at this 71st event.

This year, the organisation of the CIRP assembly, which will take place from 21 to 27 August, will be the responsibility of the IDEKO and Tekniker research centres, members of the BRTA alliance, the Faculty of Engineering of the Mondragon University (MU) and the University of Zaragoza. The purpose of the event is to promote research and development among its members of the academic world and industry, in order to contribute to environmentally sustainable global prosperity and to the well-being of society.

In addition to promoting R&D applied to manufacturing, the assembly also serves as an international platform for the exchange of points of view between the frontline actors in production engineering, as well as for the search for new partnerships and the establishment of ways of collaborating between leading researchers and industrial organisations.

As stated by Jokin Muñoa, president of the organising committee and scientific director of IDEKO “the organisation of the General Assembly of the CIRP is an opportunity to strengthen our positioning in research and innovation applied to industrial manufacturing, and allows us to further scientific knowledge as well as make progress in our specialisation in manufacturing”.

Holding this Congress in the Basque Country raises awareness of the Basque Country and furthermore, makes the great commitment of the Basque Country in the field of advanced manufacturing visible.

In addition, it highlights the large ecosystem of agents who enable the proliferation of advanced industry with a high impact on the GDP. Thus, it showcases and brings to light the companies, universities and research centres in the country. This event will bring the local ecosystem closer to the leading players in the world of research in advanced manufacturing. The assembly has become a key date for experts in production systems at the forefront of technology throughout the world. This year, furthermore, it can again be attended in person, after two years of being held remotely due to COVID-19, through a hybrid format, in which the different presentations can be followed both on-site and via streaming.

### **Latest advances in advanced manufacturing**

The event will start on 21 August with a welcome ceremony on the terrace of the BEC tower. The opening ceremony will be on Monday the 22nd and will be attended by the Minister of the Basque Government for Economic Development, Sustainability and the Environment, Arantxa Tapia. Over the seven days, issues relating to advanced manufacturing will be addressed, such as advanced materials and processes, flexible, smart and efficient manufacturing systems, energy efficiency and the digital and connected factory. Specifically, during the first part of the days, from the 22nd to the 24th, 9 keynote speeches will be given, 2 in the industrial field and 7 in the scientific field and 126 scientific presentations on various technological topics, in which the most recent advances in industrial production will be displayed, including different approaches and design tools, machines, production processes, tools, metrology and inspection equipment.

Furthermore, from the 25th to 27th, the working sessions of the different technological fields will take place and the general meetings will be held.

This event is part of the commitment of the Basque Government, R&D&I and industry stakeholders in the area to promote the presence of manufacturing in the economy in order to consolidate the stability of industrial employment, facilitate the development of cutting edge technological services as well as optimise industrial processes.

### **About the CIRP**

Founded in 1952, the International Academy of Production Engineering (CIRP) is the world leading research organisation in the field of production engineering. The CIRP holds its general assembly annually in order to promote R&D among its members through an international network of eminent researchers and prominent people in the world of industry who share knowledge and future

perspectives at these events.

The Academy has a restricted membership based on excellence demonstrated in research. Currently there are around 650 members, from more than 40 countries.

Among the corporate members of the Academy are companies of the size of ABB, Makino, Mazak, Pratt and Whitney, Rolls-Royce, Safran, Volvo, Zeiss, DMG-Mori, General Electric, Magna, NPL, PTB and Airbus, among others.

### **About IDEKO**

The Basque research centre, IDEKO, member of the BRTA alliance, prizes its more than 35-year track record devoted to research, development and innovation of new technologies applied to advanced manufacturing with a special focus on machines and precision processes and on artificial intelligence applied to manufacturing.

Its R&D&I activity is geared towards offering innovative solutions that contribute to the competitiveness of businesses, and it is spread across 4 research groups: Dynamics and Control, Manufacturing Processes, ICTs and Automation and Design and Precision Engineering.

### **About the Faculty of engineering of the Mondragon University**

The engineering faculty of Mondragon University has four technologically advanced sites and facilities in Arrasate, Hernani, Ordizia and Bilbao, which enable the challenges of industry and society to be tackled. The faculty combines the training of young people and professionals with research and the transfer of knowledge and the desire to improve the competitive positioning of companies. The U-Multirank international ranking is proof of this, the Mondragon University has an excellent rating in the raising of external financing for research (the highest and most detailed university ranking at world level in which more than 1900 centres participate). The engineering faculty is also a pioneer and leader in dual training; proof of this is that 15 of the 16 courses have the DUAL stamp following the itinerary promoted by the Basque Government.

### **About TEKNIKER**

Tekniker is a research centre and member of the BRTA alliance that specialises in the development and transfer of technology to industry, in order to improve the competitiveness of companies to differentiate themselves in a globally competitive scenario.

With more than 40 years of experience in research in applied technology, Tekniker has reached a high degree of specialisation in Advanced Manufacturing, Surface Engineering, Product Engineering and ICTs for production.

The knowledge acquired in these research areas enables Tekniker to offer its customers a wide and far reaching catalogue of technological solutions: mechatronics, industrial maintenance, robotics and automation, inspection and measurement, multifunctional surfaces, sensor devices and competitive innovation and intelligence.

### **About the UNIVERSITY OF ZARAGOZA**

The University of Zaragoza is a higher education and research public institution at the service of society, which combines a tradition of nearly 5 centuries of history (it was founded in 1542) with advanced research and continuous updating of its teachings. Within it, the School of Engineering and Architecture (EINA) ranks among the first in terms of professional, teaching and university innovation, with more than 4500 students, 700 teachers and 160 administration and service staff. In 2002, the research capacity of a good part of the EINA university groups came together with others from other faculties to create the first institute of the University of Zaragoza, the Institute of Engineering Research in Aragon (I3A). The I3A has 33 research groups and more than 500 professionals. Its most prominent lines of work are grouped around the circular economy, industry 4.0, artificial intelligence, photonics, smart cities, personalised medicine, domestic appliance technology and virtual and augmented reality.