

Newsletter #1

European Materials Characterisation Council (EMCC) has been launched!

The European Materials Characterisation Council (EMCC) has been launched; a kick - off EMCC OMB meeting was held on 11th March 2016 in Brussels, Belgium

EMCC at Industrial Technologies 2016!

The European Materials Characterisation Council will participate at European Conference Industrial Technologies 2016 on 22 - 24 June in the RAI Amsterdam



WG formation!

WG 1 Instrumentation and Metrology:

The activity of WG1 will bring in new, efficient, and scalable tools and methodologies. Through Europe-wide networking and knowledge sharing among actors in this field from industry, academia, research and standardization bodies, WG1 will be the powerhouse for pragmatic metrological solutions for current and emerging manufacturing needs. Its interaction with the Sensors cluster will create two way communications to inform on the type of sensors that need to be developed or found, and to be informed of the sensors that is out there that could be used for tackling a given metrological challenge. Scientific activities taking place at large characterisation facilities such as synchrotron or network of facilities in the area of characterisation tools and methodologies will be brought together to converge into new scientific ideas and solutions that can be decentralised to a bench level measurement for off, on or in line metrology. WG1 will be the conduit through which scientific advancement and engineering

solutions in the area of instrumentations and measurements will be blended together to bring pragmatic, decentralised, on site metrological tools and methodologies.

WG 2 Standardisation:

WG 2 is seeking to develop novel standards for (a) description of materials, (b) description of characterisation techniques and (c) description and architecture of MetaData associated to materials characterisation. The potential future activities that would benefit from standardisation processes will be identified, including the search for a standard vocabulary on materials characterisation, which would establish reliable and standardised connections between characterisation metadata and performance descriptors. Specific topics that require urgent actions on development of widely agreed "standard" characterisation protocols will be identified on the basis of European industrial needs, in cooperation with funding agencies, standardisation bodies and large characterisation facilities.

WG 3 Characterisation Data and Information Management:

The activity of WG3 will bring in actions in lines with 3Os: Open Science, Open Innovation, Open to the World, support characterisation information management by elaborating metadata standards, establishing also data repositories and comprehensive data capture/storage and addressing access to existing data.

WG3 also supports the need for an information system for materials laboratories, equipment and its availability, "Databases for simulation" and "data for model validation" with strong interaction with the EMCC and future Materials Modelling CSA.

WG 4 Regulation, toxicology and safety:

The scope of this WG is to focus on characterisation to support risk assessments and regulatory recommendations. It will provide a platform to identify and exchange required knowledge, methods and techniques and to support filling knowledge gaps. The WG will interact closely with the NanoSafety Cluster (NSC).

WG 5 SMEs & Industrial Needs:

The primary focus for WG5 is to establish a network of stakeholders in the area of characterisation. This network will include participants from all branches of industry, academia, regulators, standards bodies, the investment community and facilitators such as chambers of commerce and H2020 clusters. The network will be engaged to provide guidance and leadership to support new ideas and products and to encourage commercialisation and entrepreneurship. Key activities of the WG will be to identify routemaps to support innovation and development; to provide a directory of capabilities and expertise that can be accessed by industry and particularly by SMEs. In addition, best practice in translating complex characterisation data into clear, specific benefits will be shared and disseminated. This network aims to support SME and industrial partners by facilitating engagement throughout the supply chains, by forging links between technology providers and users, by clarifying terminology and by identifying key barriers to the adoption of new technologies. It is expected that WG5 of the EMCC will organise a series of workshops and brokerage events as well as creating a directory of technology providers.

WG 6 Policy:

WG Policy is seeking to inform future EC policy and in particular future calls within the LEIT-NMBP programme based on a stakeholder driven roadmap for characterisation techniques for engineering and upscaling of nanomaterials and advanced materials in Europe. Current development needs for characterisation will be

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identified and topics that require action will be formulated so that the community can work together with funding agencies to address gaps in order to support the strengthening of Europe's industrial capacity and competitiveness. The aim is to accelerate development and validation of technological applications and the introduction of technological innovation into the market, to intensify the collaboration between academic institutions and industry in Europe, and to facilitate the creation of spin-out companies and new industrial-academic career paths.

WG 7 Dissemination:

WG7 aims at development of distinct platforms of communication in order to facilitate the information flow between all the Working Groups, Project Partners of all EMCC Projects, as well as the wider community of characterisation interest groups and stakeholders, along the lines of the "Open Science", "Open Innovation" and "Open to the World" political priorities of the EC.

WG 8 Networking Activities:

Exchange of information between experts with different backgrounds and across the entire innovation chain is crucial (to strengthen communication between academia and industrial companies), via high level training courses (training and updating courses and forums for technicians and engineers promoted by universities and research centres), format of Scientific Conferences (enable the more active participation of industry) and the promotion of the participation in industrial conferences and fora (mutual dissemination of knowledge and the assessment of the respective points of view), being a centralised European database/hub of technological advances/requirements that is accessible to both academia and industry.