



PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, 1st December 2015, 11:30 - **PENTA, a new EUREKA Cluster, launches at the European Nanoelectronics Forum**

Today saw the launch of PENTA - a new EUREKA Cluster with the ambition to stimulate up to €1.5b of investment in research & development in the Electronics Components and Systems (ECS) industry. Pre-launch commitments have already guaranteed the first €0.5b – setting PENTA on course to meet its goal for the programme lifetime.

ECS underpins a large proportion of Europe's overall economy. The ECS domain is enabled by micro- and nanoelectronic technology, embedded software, and smart systems. In Europe, these technologies drive a value chain that employs over 9 million people - of which over 1 million are direct and induced jobs in the semiconductor industry. Together, they allow Europe to address a global market of more than €2,600 billion - enabling the generation of at least 10% of worldwide GDP.

PENTA, managed by AENEAS, will operate for 5 years, and will complement and enhance the collaboration and contribution of the European industrial and technology organisations in the ECSEL Joint Technology Initiative. It will address the full electronics value chain and help create or maintain European leadership in key application areas. Initially focussed on projects connected with the Automotive, Health and Industrial Productivity sectors and on the technologies underpinning these applications, PENTA also has a much wider remit, addressing projects of common interest to Industry & Public Authorities across the value chain.

A special focus is placed on inclusivity – whereby companies and technology organisations of all sizes from across Europe should have the opportunity to participate. Europe has a wealth of innovative activity, and PENTA seeks to harness that creativity and help develop the industry leaders of the future. As such, a special focus will be placed on SME involvement through partnership with technology clusters and other organisations representing the electronics industry.

Leading countries and companies in the electronics value chain across Europe support PENTA, creating opportunities to participate for many European organisations. The first PENTA call for project proposals is expected to open in early January 2016.

More information is available on the PENTA website: www.penta-eureka.eu

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