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- Belgium
 - Brussels Enterprise Agency
 - Solvay Entrepreneur – CAP Innove Asbl
 - Enterprise Flanders
- Denmark
 - NorthDenmark EU-Office
- Finland
 - Licentia Ltd
- France
 - Chambre Régionale de Commerce et d'Industrie Languedoc-Roussillon
 - Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry
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- Hungary
 - Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hajdú-Bihar County
 - Hungarian Investment and Trade Agency
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- Portugal
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 - Centro de Innovación y Transferencia de Tecnología de Andalucía
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 - ACREO AB
- Switzerland
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- Turkey
 - Samsun Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- United Kingdom
 - Business Link East
 - Coventry University Ltd
 - GWE Business West
 - Invest Northern Ireland
 - London Technology Network
 - Targeting Innovation Ltd
 - The Centre for Process Innovation Ltd

The Enterprise Europe Network Service

The Enterprise Europe Network was established by the European Commission in 2008 to help small, technology-oriented businesses by **connecting knowledge, technologies and people**. The Enterprise Europe Network combines and builds on the former Innovation Relay Centres and Euro Info Centres (established in 1995 and 1987 respectively). It provides small companies with expert local assistance, helping them to benefit from international technology and business partnerships with other companies or research and technology organisations.

The new integrated network offers a **“one-stop-shop”** to meet all the information needs of small businesses and companies in Europe to develop their business and to find the right partners.

The Network offers a whole set of services:

- Providing information and practical advice on market opportunities, European legislation and policies relevant to a company or sector. Helping SMEs to find suitable business partners using its business and technology cooperation database, providing information on tender opportunities and international networking.
- Developing the research and innovation capacities of SMEs by helping to create synergies with other research actors, fostering technological cooperation and holding brokerage events.
- Helping SMEs to share research results, to participate in research programs and to apply for funding, particularly from the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.
- Involving SMEs and business actors in the policy-making process, by transmitting feedback to the Commission and monitoring the implementation of EU policies in the field of competitiveness and innovation.

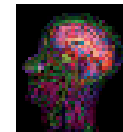


Healthcare Sector Group

Connecting Technology and Business Partners in Europe



Business Support on Your Doorstep



Homepage of the Enterprise Europe Network

www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu



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European Commission
Enterprise and Industry



Why was the Healthcare Sector Group set up? **Background:**

The world market continues to grow rapidly, as the rising costs of healthcare drive demand for faster diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation. However, the fragmented European market landscape in terms of heterogeneous legislation, access to healthcare services and systems sets barriers for companies, esp. SME's, to expand and accordingly, translate innovative solutions to products and contribute to European economic growth and competitiveness.

The Healthcare Sector Group members close this gap by offering a comprehensive range of services starting with the initiation of strategic transnational contacts between potential partners to supporting by innovation financing through raising awareness to regulation issues.

The Healthcare Sector Group members are dedicated experts with a large experience in matters of technology transfer, RTD exploitation strategies, hand on market opportunities and legislative peculiarities in the medical sector.

They are an integral part to help connect clusters all over Europe, help consolidate the lead market Initiative (LMI) action plan activities in eHealth on the regional and inter-regional level and stimulate the active participation of SME's in strategic research schemes like the Innovative Medicines Joint Undertaking (IMI JU) as well as the Framework Programmes of the European Commission.

Our Aim

Our main aim is to encourage a greater exploitation of research and technologies by medical companies in Europe. The members of the group have contacts with companies, research organisations and networks that can offer expertise in the whole spectrum of disciplines spanning from medical engineering to bioinformatics and telemedicine.

We also assist European companies in the commercialisation of technology, helping them to look outside national boundaries, either for products and technologies they need to acquire, or partners that can help them to exploit products or technologies they have developed themselves.

The objectives of the **Healthcare Sector Group**

- Facilitate interaction between technology and know-how providers and recipients of expertise in the field of healthcare
- Provide objective advice and support to companies throughout the value chain from contact initiation to negotiations for commercialisation and exploitation of technologies and/or products through assistance with innovation financing.
- Help companies find European partners for the joint development of new medical products and services.
- Mobilise and communicate to companies relevant legislative matters e.g. regulations and directives at national and European level.

Added-Value and **Impact on Business**

The wide Enterprise Europe Network gives every European enterprise the opportunity to be 'in the right place, at the right time' where innovation and new business opportunities are concerned. Based upon a proven methodology and thanks to the well developed brokering skills and services of the network members, more than **1000 partnerships** have been successfully closed, almost 20% stem from activities of the healthcare sector

The catalogue of **success stories** generated so far proves the network's combination of local presence and international reach is helping companies in every part of Europe to make profit from business opportunities.

Meet the **World** on your Doorstep:

If you need a new technology or strategic business partnerships, your local Enterprise Europe Network partner will help you to fulfil your requirements, fast. It will also provide expert professional support in negotiating a suitable agreement with your transnational technology partner.

Besides, more than **6000 technology offers and requests** are available at the Enterprise Europe Network database approximately **800** thereof have market applications for the healthcare sector. Technologies and business opportunities can be delivered to you directly through our Electronic Matching Tool.

Technology and Business Opportunities

At major exhibitions like the MEDICA Fair, you can profit from the Network's tailored and comprehensive services. Brokerage events and company missions offer you a unique opportunity to meet prospective partners on-site. More than **900 face to face meetings** are scheduled and arranged by the Healthcare Sector Group each year.