



HIGHTECH EUROPE

Member of the Associated
Membership Platform

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Preamble

HighTech Europe is a network of European research associations, industrial federations, technology transfer centres and enterprises. The objectives of HighTech Europe are:

- Identifying innovation potential to be used by SMEs,
- Achieving a long-lasting integration and harmonization of the European R&D activities in high-tech food processing,
- Taking away barriers for the transfer of knowledge to real innovation in order to strengthen the resident food industry for global competition,
- And finally guaranteeing the sustainability of HighTech Europe activities by setting up a European Institute for Food Processing.

The European Commission (7th Framework Programme) supports the activities and funds the Network of Excellence HighTech Europe (NoE HTE). Beneficiaries of the NoE HighTech Europe are 21 partners from Europe and one partner from Australia.

HighTech Europe establishes an Associated Membership Platform (AMP) to open the network to interested stakeholders, to involve them into HighTech Europe activities and to broaden the expertise of the network.

HighTech Europe identifies and evaluates available and forthcoming technologies in the food processing sector. HTE collects, maps and monitors industrial needs and knowledge. Based on this an interactive technology portal (MediaWiki) matchmaking scientific knowledge and industrial needs, will be built up. HTE will be making use of well-known tools like workshops and also new tools to implement, exploit and disseminate knowledge all over Europe and beyond.

Activities of HighTech Europe within the duration of the project (May 2009 – April 2013) are:

- Screening, identification and evaluation of available and forthcoming technological tools for food processing (information will be saved in a database).
- Collecting, mapping, monitoring and linking industrial needs and knowledge (information will be saved in a database).
- Establishing and maintaining an online interactive technology portal (MediaWiki) to offer an information platform for food technologies from science and industry. The MediaWiki can be used to retrieve information and to update/insert information. It will provide:
 - Data sheets about latest technologies in food processing
 - Lists of relevant literature references
 - Information about expertise available in European research institutes and industry (profile data sheet)
 - Etc.

- Dealing with ethical and social aspects by quantitative consumer acceptance studies, development of communication tools, and (panel) discussions about ethical aspects.
- Knowledge transfer to SME / industry:
 - handing out of the European Food Processing Implementation Award in 2010 and 2012,
 - testing of the innovative tool 'Knowledge Auction',
 - presentation of HighTech Europe at international food fairs (IFT, AnugaFoodTec), 8 innovation & technology transfer workshops all over Europe in cooperation with Enterprise Europe Network (brokerage events),
 - feasibility studies (areas: nanotechnology, biotechnology, information and communication technology),
 - demonstration of case studies in 8 technology- or process-related workshops
- Setting up an Agenda for a 'White Book of European high-tech food processing'
- Further activities for the development of the network HighTech Europe and for strengthening the knowledge transfer routes in Europe

HighTech Europe is coordinated by the DIL (Deutsches Institut für Lebensmitteltechnik e.V.). Further information about HighTech Europe is available online: www.hightecheurope.eu or at AMP@hightecheurope.eu.

Article 1

I fully recognize that this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) constitutes the Parties' declaration of will to strengthen and support the activities of Network of Excellence HighTech Europe. Activities and contributions of members of the Associated Membership Platform (AMP) are voluntary and can not be demanded by beneficiaries of the HighTech Europe project. A membership in the Associated Membership Platform does not establish any obligation, neither contractual, nor financial.

Article 2

This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes the entire understanding and agreements between HighTech Europe and the signatory that no financial contribution is expected for the involvement of the activities in the preamble. The signatory fully agrees that he will bear his own costs (e.g. travelling or personal cost) accumulated in connection with HighTech Europe activities.

Article 3

I agree that this Memorandum of Understanding may serve as basis for future activities in order to establish a European Institute of Food Processing. The MoU shall remain in force and continue until April 2013 (project end) unless the MoU is terminated earlier or extended by mutual written consent.

Article 4

AMP members shall give information about their expertise and contact details of their institution / enterprise to HighTech Europe by filling in the 'HighTech Europe Profile Datasheet' (Annex 1). The Parties agree that this information will be saved for HighTech Europe purposes only and partly published at the online Interactive Portal HighTech Europe (at any time, this information will be accessible for editing by the signatory).

Article 5

AMP members will be informed about HighTech Europe events and workshops and are invited to participate in these events. As far as the online Interactive Portal HighTech Europe is established, first pilot demonstration and use will be exclusively for AMP members.

Article 6

Each member of the AMP is allowed to place the HighTech Europe–AMP logo on their homepage and/or PR material indicating that the signatory is member of the AMP. The official use or the distribution of the HighTech Europe logo or any HighTech Europe forms or documents by the signatory shall be done in agreement with the coordinator (DIL e.V.)

Article 7

HighTech Europe documents and information made available for AMP members are not confidential and can be used and further distributed as far as the content is not distorted and the source of the document or information is clearly declared by the HTE logo. The use and distribution of HighTech Europe documents and information stated as confidential shall be done in agreement with the coordinator (DIL e.V.).

Article 8

Neither the Beneficiaries of the NoE HighTech Europe nor the coordinator of the NoE HighTech Europe shall be liable towards the signatory for any claims, costs or damages that may result, directly or indirectly, out of the performed activities, unless and to the extent that damage is caused by gross fault and/or due to wilful misconduct by the Parties.

Closing provisions

The Memorandum of Understanding is drawn up in one copy, originally signed and stamped by the respective party and sent by mail to the coordinator (Deutsches Institut für Lebensmitteltechnik, Prof.-von-Klitzing-Str.7, D-49610 Quakenbrück). The MoU enters into force at the moment the signing party has officially been approved as member of the AMP by the Executive Board of HighTech Europe.

Place & Date

Name & Position

Signature & Stamp