



Climate protection, Additive manufacturing, Industry 4.0 maturity and smart safety

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TÜV SÜD joins the World Economic Forum as Platform Partner

Munich. TÜV SÜD has joined the World Economic Forum as a Platform Partner, covering areas within advanced manufacturing and production and focusing on the four initiatives of CO2 Reduction in Production, Additive Manufacturing, Smart Industry Readiness Index and Smart Safety in Connected Manufacturing. TÜV SÜD will contribute its expertise in dialogues with experts from the fields of science, politics and business over current future-facing issues, thus helping to find solutions to pressing problems.

“Our Platform Partnership with the World Economic Forum presents us with a unique opportunity to leverage our expertise for the benefit of society”, says Walter Reithmaier, Managing Director and CEO of TÜV SÜD Product Service. “We take leading roles in an array of areas.” The global presence of TÜV SÜD and its status as an impartial third-party body have enabled its experts to amass cross-enterprise and multi-industry knowledge that extends to country-specific laws and standards. This is now demonstrated in the company’s commitment to the strategic agreement.

With targets proposed that require the manufacturing sector to halve its carbon footprint by 2030, best practice solutions are being shared and pilot projects are trialling new approaches to carbon reduction. In addition, standardised key performance indicators are an essential foundation for reliable databases. “Our experience in international carbon footprint standards will prove enormously helpful in establishing systematic evaluation and verification of reporting”, affirms Dr Natalia Duque Ciceri, Head of Global Sustainability Services at TÜV SÜD.

Additive manufacturing has proved its value during the pandemic as 3D printing technologies have been used to close gaps in supply caused by border closures or rising demand for individual products. In the view of Gregor Reischle, Head of Additive Manufacturing at TÜV SÜD, “In this situation, fast-tracking the industrialisation of additive manufacturing is imperative. We are currently working with ten leading manufacturers to draw up a position statement designed to raise awareness of the necessary changes among policy-makers and the world of business.”

Industry 4.0 is a cornerstone of the digital transformation. TÜV SÜD supports actively the initiative to proliferate the Smart Industry Readiness Index (SIRI) as the internationally recognised framework for Industry 4.0 transformation. “A total of 1,000 SIRI assessments will have been performed by us at TÜV SÜD and by McKinsey and Siemens by the end of the year”, says Dr Andreas Hauser, Head of Digital Service Centre for Excellence at TÜV SÜD Asia Pacific. The SIRI assessment establishes the level of maturity of an enterprise and thus helps companies to set the scale of change in their production operations and build their knowledge of the key principles underlying Industry 4.0.

Smart safety is the main driver of smart factories in which self-organising production is in place, delivering customisation – or “batch size one” – on demand. The addition of new modules to production systems had previously necessitated safety re-evaluation of the entire production network. “By automating this process, downtime is now minimised yet high safety standards can be upheld unchanged”, explains Dr Detlev Richter, Global Head of Industrial Products and Head of Advanced Manufacturing at TÜV SÜD, and notes, “Standardised vendor-neutral semantics are essential as the basis of communication between modules.”

About the World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas. (www.weforum.org).

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