



EADS - 89070 Ulm

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EPoSS Membership and Contribution to the Running Costs of the Technology Platform

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The development of EPoSS during the year 2006 was characterised by a remarkable progress. The Strategic Research Agenda was published, EPoSS was formally approved by the European Commission, and the official launch event took place in Brussels on July 5th. EPoSS also contributed to the process of the Commission's Framework Programme VII (FP 7) and first steps occurred in implementing the EPoSS Road Map. The current situation in EPoSS is primarily determined by the preparations of projects for the imminent calls for proposals within FP 7.

Numerous people contributed to this success. Therefore, I would like to address my sincerest thanks to all of you who helped EPoSS - the European Technology Platform on Smart Systems Integration - to become reality.

In order to consolidate the EPoSS activities a sustainable financial basis has to be created which allows the EPoSS Office to stabilise the day-to-day business and to provide the necessary services. Up to now we have nearly exclusively relied on the resources provided by VDI/VDE-IT.

Hence, it was decided at the EPoSS Launch Meeting - and specified at the last EPoSS Steering Group meeting in Berlin - to distribute the financial burden on as many shoulders as possible by asking to the EPoSS members for a small contribution to the costs. This contribution is not intended as a formal membership fee, but as a remuneration for the services to be provided (i.e. participation at the costs for maintaining the organisational structure and for the activities of the EPoSS Office).

However, a change of the financing model might also lead to a repositioning of the organisations in the EPoSS community, because only those who will contribute to the costs will also be able to take entire advantage from the services and to fully use EPoSS as a platform for promoting their interests.

Your contribution will provide you a series of advantages as it will allow you amongst others

- 1) to access the internal area of the EPoSS web portal and to participate in the web forum for positioning and exchanging your ideas
- 2) to have unlimited access to the EPoSS Working Groups and to receive first hand information from Working Group and the Steering Group sessions

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- 3) to facilitate your access to European projects and funding and to receive earliest information on Commission decisions
- 4) to participate at EPoSS internal meetings free of charge, i.e. meetings of the Working Groups, open Steering Group meetings, at least one General meeting
- 5) to obtain a 40% reduced participation fee for the annual EPoSS conference
- 6) to have privileged access to other smart systems events connected to EPoSS

The EPoSS Steering Group defined the following amounts for contributions:

Large Companies (>250 employees):	4.000 €
SMEs and public research institutions:	2.000 €
Universities:	1.500 €

This contribution for the year 2007 will be charged from January 1st, 2007 on. There will be a six-month activity reporting and financial control (rendering account to the EPoSS members after approval by the Steering Group). The contribution will have to be paid only one time per member organisation per year for an unlimited number of participants of the same organisation.

To insure a successful processing of the contributions I would like to ask you to visit the EPoSS Website and fill in the requested data. You will receive a confirmation and an invoice, once the data has been reviewed.

For any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the EPoSS Office, contact@smart-systems-integration.org, Phone +49 30 310078-155

Thank you very much for your enduring support

Looking forward to a fruitful collaboration

Yours sincerely

EADS Deutschland GmbH
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ppa. Dr. Klaus Schymanietz
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