



## **-Press Release-**

The European Technology Platform on Smart Systems Integration – EPoSS – will hold its General Assembly and Annual Forum 2019 in San Sebastián, Spain on 16-17 October 2019. Under the title “MiSSIon Smart Systems” EPoSS will address all demands related to the automated and sustainable production of and by Smart Integrated Systems. Thereby, the following application areas of Smart Systems will be considered: Manufacture, Energy, Mobility, Flexible Electronics, Wearables, Food, Water, and Agriculture. The event will be hosted and co-organised by the EPoSS member IK4 Research Alliance, represented by IKERLAN.

EPoSS is an industry-driven policy initiative defining R&D and innovation needs as well as policy requirements related to Smart Systems Integration (SSI) and integrated Micro- and Nanosystems. EPoSS brings together European private and public stakeholders in order to create an enduring basis for structuring initiatives, for coordinating and bundling efforts, for setting-up sustainable structures of a European Research Area on Smart Systems Integration. EPoSS embraces all key players, public and private, in the entire value chain. Thematic focus of EPoSS is Smart System Integration (SSI) in various application fields such as Automotive, Healthy Living, Manufacturing, Internet of Things, Energy, Natural Resources, and Security. In order to demonstrate the latest developments in these fields, EPoSS organises each year its Annual Forum and gathers its members at the General Assembly.

IK4 is a private and independent alliance of R&D centres, a benchmark in the European R&D context. It comprises 6 organisations in the Basque Country: AZTERLAN, CEIT, IDEKO, IKERLAN, LORTEK, and TEKNIKER. The IK4 Research Alliance sets out to generate, capture and transfer scientific and technological knowledge in order to contribute towards improving the competitiveness of companies and the progress of society.

The IK4 Alliance was formed in 2005 in line with a federal model, whereby its members share strategies and combine capacities without giving up their sovereignty. Through a shared strategy, the sum of the capacities of the 6 centres provides the alliance with the flexibility it needs to adapt to the characteristics of any company. In other words, this strategy qualifies it technologically to provide a global response to the needs of large companies, while simultaneously fostering its capacity to maintain a close and committed relationship with SMEs. IK4 is in an ideal position to establish long-term relations as a strategic ally of companies in the matter of innovation. This makes IK4 a benchmark in participation in research projects promoted by the public administrations.