



PRESS RELEASE

The AENEAS and CATRENE Board Members welcome the call from the European Commission for “urgent and bold actions” to secure the competitiveness of Europe in the field of micro- and nanoelectronics.

“Today no societal challenge can be successfully met without electronics.”

European Strategy for Micro- and Nanoelectronic Components and Systems
by the European Commission

Paris, 30 May 2013 – The European nanoelectronics community acknowledges the new strategy, released by the European Commission last week and presented by Vice President Neelie Kroes yesterday, on micro- and nanoelectronic components and systems as an important first step.

The document reads: *The importance of the area and the challenges faced by the stakeholders in the EU require urgent and bold actions in order to leave no weak link in Europe’s innovation and value chains... Europe cannot afford to lose the capacity to design and manufacture micro- and nanoelectronics. This would put large parts of the value chains of major industrial sectors at risk and deprive Europe of essential technologies needed to address its societal challenges.*

Three EU-level focuses are outlined in the strategy:

- attracting and channelling investments in support of a European roadmap for industrial leadership in micro- and nanoelectronics ;
- combining and focusing support by Member States, the EU and the private sector;
- taking measures to strengthen competitiveness and assure a global level playing field, to support business development and SMEs, and to address the skills gap.

The AENEAS and CATRENE Board Members are pleased to note that this strategy builds upon the KETs (Key Enabling Technologies) initiative and reinforces the main objectives of the Position Paper entitled *Innovation for the future of Europe: Nanoelectronics beyond 2020*.

“The ICT companies and research institutes represented in AENEAS and CATRENE are pleased with the follow up that the European Commission has given in this strategy to the Position Paper released last November. We are convinced that, with the support of the European Commission and the Member States, we can successfully address the ICT related societal agenda for energy, health, safety... The execution of this strategy will strengthen Europe’s technological future by allowing us, for example, to build advanced manufacturing lines enabling differentiating technologies and products and to create high level jobs,” affirmed Reinhard Ploss, CEO of Infineon Technologies and President of AENEAS.

Enrico Villa, Chairman of CATRENE, added “A good momentum has been created with the release of both the Position Paper and the EC’s strategy. Europe’s role in the world supply of

products based on nanoelectronic technologies will benefit from a European Electronics Industrial Strategic Roadmap which overarches National initiatives, Eureka and Horizon 2020.”

The AENEAS and CATRENE Board Members will actively pursue the elaboration of the Roadmap (expected release date by end of 2013) conform to the European Commission’s strategy.

Related documents:

AENEAS and CATRENE Position Paper

[*Innovation for the future of Europe: Nanoelectronics beyond 2020*](#)

European Commission Communication

[*A European strategy for micro- and nanoelectronic components and systems*](#)

About AENEAS

The Association for European Nanoelectronics Activities (AENEAS) is a non-profit association established in 2006. It federates European R&D players: large companies, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), and research organisations.

AENEAS represents the R&D actors in the ENIAC Joint Undertaking contributing to two thirds of its operational budget. The ENIAC Joint Undertaking is the leading instrument that funds European R&D activities in nanoelectronics.

For more information on AENEAS, please visit www.aeneas-office.eu.

About CATRENE

The EUREKA programme CATRENE (Σ! 4140) began in January 2008 and focuses on pre-competitive innovation in semiconductor technology and applications. It aims at a Technological Leadership for a competitive European ICT industry. CATRENE brings together all key actors of the European nanoelectronics value chain around R&D projects and market opportunities while addressing societal challenges.

Resources required have been targeted at approximately 2,500 person-years annually, equalling about 4 B€ for the complete programme.

For more information on CATRENE, please visit www.catrene.org.

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