Ladies and gentlemen,

The year began very positively for us at SmartFactory-KL, despite Corona. Our GAIA-X research project smartMA-X began on January 1, 2021. The European data platform GAIA-X is essential to our vision of production in the future: *Production Level 4*. Accordingly, our motto for the Hannover Fair (Messe), HM 2021 is: **Achieving Production Level 4 with GAIA-X**.

We will be presenting our subjects and demonstrators at various exhibits at the virtual Hannover Fair, to include: a keynote, a full-day program, as well as several panel discussions.

I would be delighted to meet you at the virtual trade fair. But first, allow me to provide you with more detail in the next newsletter as the date of the Hannover Fair draws closer.

Until then, I hope your days remain covid-free.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Martin Ruskowski, Chairman of the Executive Board of Technologie-Initiative SmartFactory KL e.V.
Launch of GAIA-X research project
"smartMA-X"

SmartMA-X is a major program sponsored by BMWi to focus on the industrial component of GAIA-X and, in the future, provide a secure data infrastructure, for example, to realize shared production in accordance with European standards. Our research approach is to offer production skills in the network (analogous to a market place) and make them available for use throughout Europe: Production-as-a-Service. Our Production Level 4 demonstrator will be the first production unit to be connected to the GAIA-X platform. Learn more about smartMA-X and its scope in our press release: smartfactory.de/en/gaia-x-project-begins-in-kaiserslautern

On March 18, you are invited to tune in as GAIA-X is the focus of SmartFactory-KL LIVE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWcybd52UZg
Our LIVE broadcasts are aired every 3rd Thursday and are becoming established viewing throughout the partner circle and beyond. Our LIVE studio, located in the former Ambient Living Lab, provides an atmosphere of authenticity, which is also appreciated by our viewers as we know from the positive audience feedback. However, we note with the passage of time that people are showing a tendency toward "online weariness." That is why we also rely on a secondary medium: All shows and major announcements are also available for viewing 24/7 on YouTube.

On 1/21/21, the topic is "Modular safety: Enabling production in the future." Guests were Gerd Wemmer from PILZ, Dr. D. Richter from TÜV SÜD, and Dr. Patrick Bertram from SmartFactory-KL. Link to the broadcast: youtu.be/la4cu0lu7Is

On 2/18/21, the show is dedicated to our vision of future production: Production Level 4 – The Upgrade of Industrie 4.0. Panel members include Prof. Martin Ruskowski (SmartFactory-KL), Eric Brabänder (Empolis), and Dr. Markus Berg (proALPHA). Link: youtu.be/nm1ptCYr4Nc

Playlist of selected topics

We have prepared a playlist of selected topics from previous broadcasts. We hope this helps you to find detailed information about topics that interest you on our channel:

www.youtube.com/c/SmartFactoryKL/playlists

In parallel, our colleagues at the Mittelstand 4.0 Competence Center (SME4.0) have launched a video series, in which they explain the basic terms relating to the digital transformation. Watching this is well worth the time!

Mittelstand 4.0 Competence Center (SME4.0)
Kaiserslautern - YouTube
Prof. Ruskowski featured in proALPHA podcast

(German only podcast)

*Production Level 4: Warum Mensch UND Maschine das Dreamteam sind*

digitalgenial.podigee.io/16-neue-episode

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Teaser for SME4.0 CC AI Conference

Invitations to the AI Conference to be held on March 18, 2021 are being sent by the Mittelstand 4.0 Competence Center (SME4.0) Kaiserslautern. Four experts from the software and AI industries team up with CC-KL to show how artificial intelligence can also be applied to benefit SMEs. Guest speakers include Eric Brabänder (Empolis), Jan Knieriemen (Z-Reality), Tobias Krafft (Trusted AI) and Johannes Korves (natif.ai). More information is provided in the program flyer:


(German only)
"Major changes in the auto industry of Rhineland-Palatinate"

This was the motto of the online forum on February 16, 2021 initiated by the Transfer Initiative RLP to address the BMWi’s economic stimulus package 35c, which focuses on vehicle production & Industrie 4.0. While getting acquainted with some of the relevant research expertise in the state, approximately 80 participants learned important information about this economic stimulus program, shared practical experience concerning the handling of funding consortia, and learned about current trends and developments in the industry.

The forum also emphasized the importance of transfer as an element of the stimulus program. The RLP Transfer Initiative provides support and assistance for successful transfer projects. Interested companies and research institutes may use a matchmaking platform to find suitable consortia partners and opportunities for a mutual exchange of information, or to pitch a short project concept on March 8, 2021. Register today at kopa35c-rlp.b2match.io.

As part of SmartFactory-KL, the RLP Transfer Initiative looks forward to welcoming you!

Interesting Links

Projekt Gaia-X - Autobau in der Cloud (German only)
www.tagesschau.de/wirtschaft/technologie/gaia-x-cloud-bundesregierung-datenstrategie

GAIA-X Projekt smartMA-X - Die Produktion aufteilen (German only)

Production Level 4 - Smart Factory: Mit Gaia-X zur resilienten Produktion (German only)
www.industry-of-things.de/smart-factory-mit-gaia-x-zur-resilienten-produktion