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Smart Production Alliance: Partnership for global industrial development

On June 11, 2025, Deutsche Messe Technology Academy, INCIT, and Swiss Smart Factory signed an agreement to establish the Smart Production Alliance (SPA). The alliance aims to contribute to the global digital and sustainable transformation of industrial production.

To this end, the three organizations are pooling their respective service offerings, which are aimed at business development agencies and industrial production clusters. The Alliance presented itself to a global audience of experts for the first time at one of Switzerland's most prestigious technology conferences, the International Smart Factory Summit in Biel/Bienne.

The SPA partners have summarized their joint solution offering in the slogan "Train – Connect – Solve." To enable industrial regions to catch up with the industrial top levels, the alliance promotes skills and knowledge in the field of intelligent production through targeted training. The establishment of networks and the inclusion of further partners is intended to support international cooperation and the exchange of ideas.

The alliance aims to develop tailor-made solutions for its target groups on how smart production technologies can be introduced and further developed.

Pooling different competencies and experiences

The partners bring different and complementary assets to the SPA. **INCIT**, a Singapore-based consulting firm with a wide range of international partners, has many years of experience in analyzing industrialization processes worldwide. INCIT's unique database

enables an objective assessment of the productivity and competitiveness of local companies – a prerequisite for tailored and realistic recommendations for regional industrial policy.

The **Swiss Smart Factory (SSF)** is Switzerland's leading test and development center for Industry 4.0 and part of the Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne. With an ecosystem of strong partners, it has created an open, industry-oriented platform where innovative technologies are jointly developed, tested, and demonstrated.

A central element is the International Smart Factory Academy, a modular continuing education program for managers and trainers. It imparts practical knowledge on digital transformation, automation and sustainable production and is conducted both in Switzerland and worldwide. SSF relies on modern remote training that enables global digital access to real industrial plants - flexible, scalable and at the highest industrial level.

The **Deutsche Messe Technology Academy (DMTA)** in Hanover is responsible for global marketing and networking among users of production technology and with leading, globally active technology suppliers. To this end, the DMTA is focusing on establishing and operating academies worldwide, where it works with leading industry partners to hold year-round showcases and events on innovations in automation, robotics, and industrial AI. The Academy and the SPA will use also the global industrial lead event of HANNOVER MESSE and its spin-offs, the Industrial Transformation Events in the world's most important industrial regions, as their communication channel.

Tailor-made programs and rapid implementation

In order to be able to contribute quickly to industrial development and modernization with their combined expertise, the partners have also adopted organizational statutes that enable them to cooperate efficiently and without bureaucracy with economic development agencies in the world's industrial hotspots. The Smart Production Alliance thus aims to build a quickly realizable bridge between the present of industrial manufacturing and the future of state-of-the-art technology.

“If we want to enable companies in countries such as India, Turkey, Mexico, Indonesia, and Brazil to increase their participation in global value chains, an honest assessment of actual productivity is a basic prerequisite,” says INCIT founder Raimund Klein, describing what he believes is the first step necessary to close the gap with global standards.

Successful modernization therefore requires the rapid transfer of knowledge that takes into account the resources actually available locally for industrial training. For Dr. Dominic

Gorecky, head of Swiss Smart Factory, this requires digital teaching concepts: "In many cases, we cannot rely on a universally available hardware infrastructure for industrial training. Instead of building this up in a resource-intensive manner, we rely on smart, software-based remote training using state-of-the-art production technology. Training courses such as those offered by the Biel-based company MyLifeZone greatly accelerate the transfer of skills for industrial modernization."

Ongoing exchange within the industrial community is also a fundamental prerequisite for industrial knowledge transfer. "With the Smart Production Alliance, we will bring the various players together. In addition to the users from industry, who we mainly address with our offering, we also invite suppliers, start-ups, research institutions and clusters to become an active part of our ecosystem" says Thomas Rilke, CEO of Deutsche Messe Technology Academy, describing the alliance's goal of further developing sustainable industrial production ecosystems worldwide.

International presence of the Smart Production Alliance

The Smart Production Alliance's agenda therefore prioritizes exchange with industrial policy makers worldwide. UNIDO, the UN organization for industrial development, is one of the Alliance's most important contacts and a driving force behind it. Following its launch in Biel/Bienne, an event will be held in Ben Guerir, Morocco, in September, which is also supported by the mining and technology giant OCP. This will be followed by the event Industrial Transformation in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from December 1 to 3, 2025. In 2026, HANNOVER MESSE, where Brazil will be the partner country, will be a focal point of the Alliance's dialogue with the international industrial community.

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