Press Release

I-MC - a Centrale Nantes and CEA startup - one of the winners in the i-Lab 2018 Competition

On 5th July, 64 projects out of the 383 applicants were selected by the i-Lab 2018 competition, which provides support to innovative technology startups. Among them, the startup I-MC (Innovative Manufacturing & Controls) which, based on work undertaken in the Research Institute in Civil and Mechanical Engineering at Centrale Nantes and at the CEA, offers a digital integration platform for the industrial machining sector.

This platform develops an automated inspection solution for CNC machines; it represents an ambitious industrial project at the heart of the Smart Factory and French Fab context.

I-MC's innovation lies in the ability to inspect a part quickly and accurately on the machine without having to remove it (in-situ inspection). It also allows defects to be directly dealt with at the foot of the machine. This technical but also practical innovation significantly reduces overall cycle time and improves product quality via an innovative digital production line.

I-MC is targeting industrial machine tool operators who have high requirements in terms of machined product precision and quality, such as the aerospace, defense or nuclear markets.

I-MC started out in Pertuis (near Aix en Provence) in 2017 and employs 6 people today. It was created by Dominique Nozais, from the CEA spin-off programme, and co-founder Stéphane Robic. Centrale Nantes, in addition to its capital holding, has signed a collaboration agreement which goes alongside the transfer of a software platform, developed by Professor Jean-Yves Hascoët, Scientific Advisor to I-MC, to I-MC.

Press Contact:
Centrale Nantes - Emilie Demange – 02 40 37 16 90 – emilie.demange@ec-nantes.fr

Dominique Nozais commented: “The financial support received from the i-Lab2018 contest will support the industrialization of our solution in "lean startup" mode. It is in this context that we have started, with Jean-Yves Hascoët's laboratory, the first demonstration stages at STELIA Aerospace in Saint Nazaire, a major player in the supply of aeronautics parts."

About Centrale Nantes

Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its undergraduate, Master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. At Centrale Nantes, research and training are organised into three key areas for growth and innovation: manufacturing, energy transition and healthcare. With research platforms *ranging from digital simulation to prototyping using full-scale models and an* incubator *with 20 years of experience in supporting start-up projects, the school has two major tools for innovation and creation, working hand in hand with* industry*. Centrale Nantes promotes its teaching and research capabilities at* international *level through around 100 partnerships with prestigious universities and schools worldwide.*

Centrale Nantes welcomes 2,320 students, including 1,550 undergraduate students, 200 Executive Education and ITII degree apprenticeship students, 260 PhD students and 400 Masters students, on its 40-acre campus.

For more information, visit www.ec-nantes.fr

Media Library https://phototheque.ec-nantes.fr/ @CentraleNantes

Visit the website: www.i-mc.fr for more information about I-MC.

Press Contact:
Centrale Nantes - Emilie Demange – 02 40 37 16 90 – emilie.demange@ec-nantes.fr