

NADIA 2nd General Assembly Meeting

Second General Assembly of the NADIA Project – New Automotive components Designed for and manufactured by Intelligent processing of light alloys – Helsinki, 12th-13th June 2008

50 participants representing the 26 European partners of the NADIA Consortium came together in Helsinki to celebrate the second “birthday” of the project, which marked its mid-term status, right at the half way of its activities.

This time the meeting has been hosted by the Helsinki University of Technology (HUT), located in Espoo, Helsinki, and held at the Dipoli Congress Center.

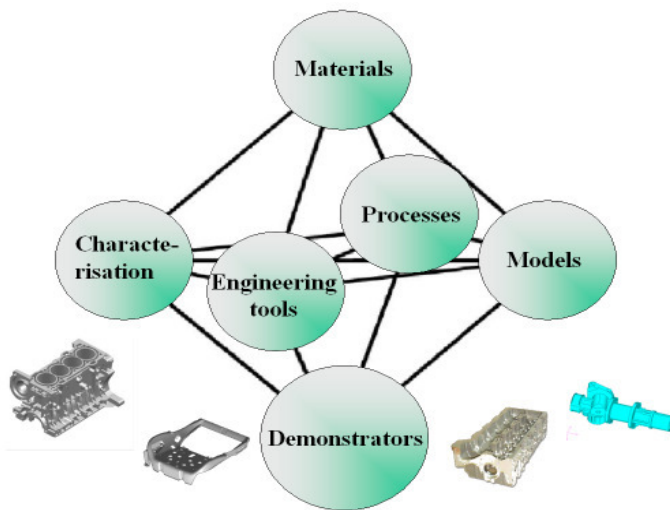
This event has represented the main opportunity during the all year in which partners could meet all together and fully share and discuss the project results and future activities.

This General Assembly furthermore corresponded with the closure of the annual reporting activity, the preparation of the financial documents and of the presentations about the work done so far, in view of the EU reviewer assistance at the meeting.

It becomes quite clear, just from these premises, that the approach to this event was loaded with a hard work and great expectations.

This meeting constituted, especially from the coordinator’s and the hosting partner’s point of view, a challenging experience: the organization had to start something like 5 months in advance to fit with the rich calendar of Helsinki events for the central week of June (including also the prestigious Millennium Technology Prize); two new partners (RWTH, INGUS) could join the NADIA Consortium for the first time, after finalizing the long amendment procedures, and a new demonstrator-driven structure was conceived to reorganize the rich contributions of the Project Work Packages.

The central idea of this assembly was in fact to focus on the core elements of the projects, which are the prototypes (a **Crash Resistant Mg HPDC Part**, a **Cylinder Head**, an **Engine Block**, a **Die Cast Al Component for Steering System**), so to underline the complex



correlated activities that characterize this integrated project. The four sessions were chaired by the Demonstrator leaders, respectively FORD, DAIMLER, FIAT and CIE Automotive, which coordinated the contributions of the other partners involved in the different activities concerning the component development. The same model has been applied to the each demonstrator, taking into account various correlated aspects, which are: **materials (basic research level), characterization & models (intermediate research level),**

processes & engineering tools (final research level), pointing out also specific issues and the critical elements for each demonstrator.

This strategy has encouraged partners to make a further effort to integrate, coordinate and present their work clearly, also attaining to the scheduled agenda.

The participants, including the EU Officer, have appreciated this solution and were positively impressed, not only by the consistency of the performed activities, with a good level on integration,

and the interesting results coming up, but also by the evident accuracy and cooperation with which the several tasks have been dealt with and the difficulties and critical aspects have been faced up to. The congratulations of the EU reviewer and the satisfaction for the successful meeting are the best reward for the work done and provide the right boost to keep proceeding in the best way and not to let the EU expectations down.

For further information: www.nadiaproject.org

