

## Media Release

### **Digitization and networking in production: Leadec joins ICNAP research community**

*Stuttgart, 15/9/20 – Leadec is a new member of the International Center for Networked, Adaptive Production (ICNAP) under the leadership of the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology IPT in Aachen. The ICNAP aims to find solutions for the transformation to Industry 4.0. Together with industrial partners it develops production systems and value chains and validates them on the basis of concrete manufacturing tasks.*

“Digitization does not only make factories more intelligent. The associated services are also increasingly data-driven. In the ICNAP we are part of an active and heterogenous community which develops and manages new digital business models for the factory of the future,” explains Dr. Bernd Völpel, Head of the Smart Factory Group at Leadec. The 23 companies in the ICNAP community include, for example, ABB, Ericsson, Mitsubishi Electric Europe, MTU Aero Engines, Philips and Zeiss.

The Smart Factory Group is Leadec’s innovation hub which develops digital service offers, serves as a platform for the exchange with external technology partners and drives internal digitization. One example is Leadec’s new IoT Home Cloud to implement data-driven innovations, which interact seamlessly with the customers’ individual cloud technologies if required, in a professional and scalable manner.

Among other things, the ICNAP’s common projects in 2020 deal with the data exchange of digital twins, artificial intelligence in production and the economic advantages of digitized manufacturing. All ICNAP members can contribute their specific requirements to the studies and developments. They benefit from the results on digitization and networking of various technical products, processes and company networks.

### **About Leadec**

Leadec is one of the leading providers of technical services for the automotive and manufacturing industries. The company, which is headquartered in Stuttgart, employs about 20,000 people worldwide. In 2019 Leadec earned sales of around EUR 900 million. For almost 60 years, Leadec has been supporting its customers along the entire production supply chain. The service provider is based at more than 300 sites, often directly at the customers’ plants and facilities.

Leadec's global services comprise: Engineer (Production Planning & Optimization, Automation and Production IT), Install (Electrical Installation, Mechanical Installation and Relocation), Maintain (Production Equipment Maintenance and Technical Cleaning), Support (Technical Facility Management, Infrastructural Facility Management and Logistics) as well as other local services. The services are provided either in projects or permanently on site at the customer's premises.

For more information about Leadec go to: [www.leadec-services.com](http://www.leadec-services.com)

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**Image**



Dr. Bernd Vöpel, Head of the Smart Factory Group at Leadec