EIT ICT Labs

iMinds becomes a member of EIT ICT Labs KIC

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Ghent/Brussels, April 22, 2013 – EIT ICT Labs and iMinds are announcing today that iMinds is becoming an Associate Partner of EIT ICT Labs. The membership strengthens iMinds’ collaboration with some of Europe’s most prestigious business and research institutes and supports EIT ICT Labs’ mission to make Europe a global leader in ICT innovation.

EIT ICT Labs is a Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). EIT ICT Labs links education, research and business in a European entrepreneurial ecosystem. According to Wim De Waele, CEO of iMinds, “The EIT ICT Labs membership offers exceptional opportunities to strengthen our digital incubation and entrepreneurship program. iMinds strongly believes that start-ups and SMEs in ICT must have an international perspective from the start. EIT ICT Labs has set up initiatives such as an international coaching infrastructure to support ICT spin-offs and SMEs. Its European network can help iMinds start-ups with their plans to take their business international.”

“We are pleased to welcome iMinds,” says Willem Jonker, CEO of EIT ICT Labs. “iMinds has a proven track record in stimulating entrepreneurship. iMinds’ strong commitment to EIT ICT Labs is well recognized, especially through its strengthening of our Eindhoven Co-location Centre.”

Today, innovation excellence is benchmarked internationally. The new EIT ICT Labs membership will allow iMinds to further expand the scale of its innovation activities in Europe, and to exchange knowledge, best practices and people across borders. Moreover, being part of EIT ICT Labs contributes to iMinds’ mission in stimulating ICT as an enabling technology in many other fields such as health, energy, manufacturing, media ... and helping to grow these markets at a European level.

ABOUT iMinds
iMinds is an independent research institute, founded by the Flemish government in 2004 to stimulate innovation in the field of ICT. iMinds conducts both strategic and applied research. We bring new technologies, societal challenges and questions from the business world together in interdisciplinary research projects. Along with our 800+ top researchers at Flemish universities, we involve companies, research partners, governments and other non-profit organizations. In addition, the iMinds team guides starting entrepreneurs and companies in the realization of innovative, ICT-related ideas. More information: www.iminds.be

ABOUT EIT ICT Labs
EIT ICT Labs is one of the first Knowledge and Innovation Communities set up by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, as an initiative of the European Union. EIT ICT Labs’ mission is to drive European leadership in ICT innovation for economic growth and quality of life. Since 2010, EIT ICT Labs has consistently brought together researchers, academics and businesspeople. By linking education, research and business, EIT ICT Labs empowers top ICT talents for the future and brings ICT innovations to life. EIT ICT Labs partners represent global companies, leading research centers, and top ranked universities in the field of ICT. For more information, visit www.eitictlabs.eu

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Sustainable energy supply, intelligent traffic management and increasing the quality of life are just some of the challenges that society, business and politics will face in the future. Innovative ICT technologies offer new ways of giving a much needed boost to finding alternative solutions.

Education, Research and Business are three elements in the EIT ICT Labs “Knowledge Triangle” and key drivers of the knowledge-based society. EIT ICT Labs aims to create a new breed of innovators and entrepreneurs that can develop breakthrough ideas - supported all the way to the market. Our motto - Empowering ICT top talents for the future.

EIT ICT Labs Co-location centres in Berlin, Eindhoven, Helsinki, Paris, Stockholm and Trento play a vital role as virtual and live meeting places for project members, students, entrepreneurs, SMEs and start-ups as well as major industrial partners searching for new talents and new innovative opportunities. Mobility is a key factor – we bring people together across geographical and organizational borders. EIT ICT Labs – Bringing ICT Innovations to Life!