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Defining Social responsibility Interventions for Grounded Networking in Machine Tools Sector (DESIGN-MTS)

September 2013

The project [Defining Social responsibility Interventions for Grounded Networking in Machine Tools Sector \(DESIGN-MTS\)](#) is funded by the EU [Competitiveness and Innovation Programme](#).

The main aim of the project is to enable European enterprises in Europe's Machine Tool Sector (MTS) to take a strategic approach to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in cooperation with relevant stakeholders. Integrating CSR into a company's core business is critical for its own competitiveness and growth, but also for increasing social trust and consumer confidence in business and economy in general.

DESIGN-MTS will develop awareness of CSR in the sector by integrating a multi-stakeholder approach to CSR and developing socially responsible best practice cases to enhance the visibility and value of CSR in the MTS.

A permanent multi-stakeholder platform on CSR in the machine tools industry will be set up within the project. The platform will include a broad range of relevant European stakeholders, that will facilitate stakeholder dialogue; build consensus on CSR issues in the sector; foster the adoption of joint commitments and provide multilateral support to CSR.

The project has a European-wide scope involving 29 EIP (Enterprise and Innovation Programmes) participating countries through the membership networks of the partner organisations and more specifically: 23 EU Member States, and 6 other EIP participating countries, i.e. Macedonia, Turkey, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia and Norway (EFTA/EEA Country).

The CEI participates in DESIGN-MTS as a full-fledged Partner promoting the project's goals and supporting related activities in its Member States.

The project was initiated by the European Commission and is led by Università Degli Studi di Macerata in partnership with CSR Europe, the European Association of the Machine Tool Industries (CECIMO), Central European Initiative (CEI), Istituto Ricerche Economiche e Sociali (IRES) and the University of Nottingham.

The project runs from 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2014.