

## [PROSPECTS 5.0](#)

Flanders Make's motivation to coordinate the PROSPECTS 5.0 project is rooted in its core mission: supporting the transformation of Flemish and European manufacturing towards a more human-centred, sustainable and resilient future. As a strategic research centre closely connected to industry, Flanders Make is uniquely positioned to bridge academic research, industrial practice and policy-relevant insights in large-scale European collaborations.

The transition to Industry 5.0 represents a shift away from a purely efficiency-driven paradigm toward one that explicitly integrates people, environment and societal value. PROSPECTS 5.0 (answering to call topic [HORIZON-CL4-2023-HUMAN-01-52](#)) directly addresses this challenge by analysing how Industry 5.0 principles are being adopted across 14 real-world industrial use cases in multiple sectors and countries, and by translating these insights into practical guidance and policy-relevant outputs.

Flanders Make coordinates PROSPECTS 5.0 to:

- Ensure strong industrial relevance, keeping research anchored in real company transitions rather than abstract models;
- Align scientific excellence with practical uptake, particularly for SMEs, start-ups and mid-caps that face the biggest barriers in moving toward Industry 5.0;
- Structure collaboration across a large and diverse consortium of 30 partners from 16 countries, ensuring coherence, complementarity and impact.

In doing so, Flanders Make reinforces its role as a European hub for pre-competitive, industry-driven research supporting the digital and green transition of manufacturing.

As project coordinator, Flanders Make is responsible for the overall strategic, scientific and administrative leadership of PROSPECTS 5.0. This includes coordinating the consortium's work programme, ensuring quality and consistency across research activities, and acting as the main interface with the European Commission under Horizon Europe.

Beyond coordination, Flanders Make, in close collaboration with the E2E (KU Leuven) and CVAMO (UGent) labs, contributes substantive technical expertise to the project by:

- Leveraging its deep engagement with manufacturing companies to ensure that findings reflect industrial realities;
- Supporting the analysis of success factors, drivers and obstacles in Industry 5.0 transitions across different sectors;
- Helping translate research outcomes into methodologies, guidance and tools that companies and innovation ecosystems can realistically apply.

From an implementation perspective, PROSPECTS 5.0 reflects Flanders Make's long-standing experience in managing complex European research consortia. Key learnings include the importance of aligning diverse disciplinary perspectives, maintaining a strong link between research and application, and continuously engaging stakeholders—companies, researchers and policymakers alike—throughout the project lifecycle. These experiences reinforce Flanders Make's conviction that Industry 5.0 can only succeed if technological progress remains tightly connected to human and societal needs.

Within the project, Flanders-based SME OCTAVE acts as a use-case and supports the analysis of how Industry 5.0 principles can be embedded in company practices and innovation ecosystems,

particularly with a view to scalability and adoption by SMEs and start-ups. Its role strengthens the project's ability to move from analysis toward actionable insights for practitioners