



**ADVANCED
FACTORIES**
EXPO & CONGRESS

10
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

5-7 May 2026
Fira de Barcelona



CALL FOR STARTUPS

NEXT-GEN OF AUTOMATION

www.advancedfactories.com

IA | IoT | Automation | Robotics | Intralogistics | Greentech | IT/OT

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01. INDUSTRY STARTUP FORUM 2026

Advanced Factories brings together the Spanish industrial ecosystem every year through its entire value chain, with over 10,800 industrial companies and more than 100 organizations represented by business associations, professional groups, technology clusters, public administrations, professional colleges, universities, as well as technology companies and manufacturing manufacturers.

The **Industry 4.0 Congress** hosts the most prominent international experts to share key insights on the implementation of new business models and the latest technological trends around Advanced Industry.

From **May 5 – 7 2026 in Barcelona**, Advanced Factories will gather the latest solutions in automation, robotics, 3D printing, digital manufacturing, IoT, Artificial Intelligence, and all emerging technologies of Industry 4.0 at **Fira de Barcelona**. Take advantage of this opportunity to connect with CEOs, managers, plant directors, CIOs, specialized technicians, engineers, and professionals from the industrial sector.

Advanced Factories will host the **Industry Startup Forum**, a space that brings together business leaders from the sector, potential partners, investors and entrepreneurs so that they can share their innovative solutions, establish synergies and develop the most disruptive projects applied to the smart and connected factory. This meeting is looking for disruptive projects that have an impact on production centres and can help companies in the industrial sector to face the challenges related to connectivity, digital transformation and the rise of Industry 4.0.

If you have innovative solutions, you can present your project to the main leading companies in the sector, potential partners and specialised investors.

The Industry Startup Forum is an opportunity to:

- Showcase your company, products, or services to an international, specialized audience in a Pitch Elevator format.
- Gain access to the La Salle Technova Barcelona network (subject to requirements).
- Connect with the Global Innovation System for Factories of the Future.
- Find partners to develop your project.



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02. Main Topics

Technologies

- ROBOTICS
- INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION
- MACHINE LEARNING
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
- VIRTUAL, AUGMENTED AND MIXED REALITY
- DIGITAL TWIN
- BLOCKCHAIN
- ARTIFICIAL VISION
- SYSTEM INTEGRATION SYSTEMS
- IT/OT
- INTERNET OF THINGS
- INDUSTRIAL CLOUD
- DATA ANALYTICS
- IT/OT
- CYBERSECURITY
- INDUSTRIAL PLANT MANAGEMENT TOOLS
- VOICE ASSISTANTS
- COBOTICS
- 5G OPERATOR-EQUIPMENT INTERFACES (HMI)
- PLATFORMS AND PORTALS
- WORKER 5.0
- ZERO-DEFECT PRODUCTION
- 3D PRINTING
- 4.0 CONNECTED OPERATOR

Thematic Area

- AUTOMOTIVE
- FOOD AND BEVERAGES
- METAL AND STEEL
- TEXTILE
- TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY AND LOGISTICS
- HEALTH, PHARMACEUTICALS AND WELLNESS
- CAPITAL GOODS AND PRODUCTION
- ELECTRONICS AND CONSUMERS GOODS
- AERONAUTICS AND ARMAMENTS
- BUILDING

03. WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

If you are a start-up, an entrepreneur or a Technology Center and you have innovative solutions in any of the above sectors and technologies you can participate in the Industry Startup Forum of the Advanced Factories.

04. HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

All projects must be submitted through [the official platform here](#).

Once submitted, the organizers will verify whether the proposal has been correctly submitted and the project has been accepted. A panel of experts will evaluate the submitted projects and select those that meet the established requirements. Only the selected projects will be able to participate in the Industry Startup Forum as part of Advanced Factories.

05. CALENDAR

Projects can be submitted until **March 27th, 2026** (23:59 CET).

The notifications for the selected projects will be made starting from April 6th, 2026. Between these two deadlines, the steering committee reserves the right to request any clarifications.

PARTICIPATE

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06. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Expert Committee will evaluate the solutions submitted based on the following criteria:

- The ability to solve Future Factories challenges.
- Leadership and team management skills
- Highly disruptive technologies.
- Potential sustainable growth of the project and strategy.
- Potential impact on the Factories of the Future, and on the economy and society in general.
- High innovative component of the project (the term innovative in the broad sense of product, process, business, etc.).

07. INDUSTRIAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

I authorize the Organization to publish those data considered public: company name, a brief description of the project, and professional contact details. I declare that the information entered on the platform for registration in the Forum does not violate any contracts or rights with third parties, including patents, copyrights, industrial secrets, trademarks, or other confidential information.

08. PRIVACY POLICY

To participate in this Call for Innovation you need to read and accept the terms of participation: If this proposal is selected to participate in the Industry Startup Forum of Advanced Factories, I authorize the Organization to publish the public data considered.

In compliance with the provisions of the European General Data Protection Regulation 679/2016 of April 27 (GDPR), you are informed that Next Business Exhibitions S.L. (NEBEXT) is responsible for the processing of personal data that you voluntarily provide to manage your participation as a speaker at the event. By providing your personal data, it means that you accept our Privacy Policy and expressly authorize its use in the communication materials for the congress, such as the website, emails, the press, as well as the video and photographs of the session. The photographs and videos of the sessions can be communicated to third parties to be published and / or used in the media for the dissemination of the event. You are also informed that your personal data may be sent, with a duty of confidentiality, to the associated companies of Nebext. You can exercise your rights of access, correction, cancellation and objection regarding these data by sending an email to Nebext to: data@nebext.com or by postal mail to Enric Granados 86-88 1st floor - 08008 Barcelona.

You can check here our [Privacy Policy](#) and the Event [General Terms & Condition](#).

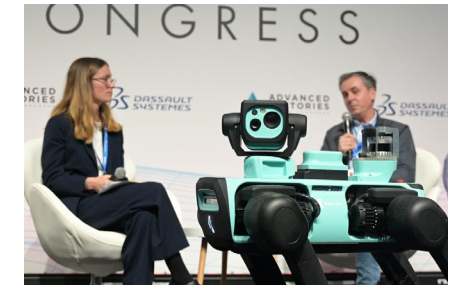
09. ORGANIZERS

NEBEXT organizes the Advanced Factories and La Salle Technova Barcelona organizes the Industry Startup Forum space within the framework of the Advanced Factories.

10. CONTACT DETAILS

For any questions or additional information, please contact La Salle at the following e-mail address projects@technovabarcelona.org

Participation in the Industry Startup Forum implies full acceptance of these terms and conditions.



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