



The Open Industry 4.0 Alliance welcomes Microsoft and Siemens as members

With its clear commitment to open standards, the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance now comprises almost 80 companies

Reinach, Switzerland, 22 April 2021 - The [Open Industry 4.0 Alliance](#), an association of companies aiming to drive digitalization and create real added value on factory floors, welcomes two heavyweights from the IT and OT industry: Microsoft and Siemens. Since the alliance was founded at Hannover Messe in 2019, membership has grown to almost 80 committed companies, ranging from medium-sized industrial suppliers to global corporations. Microsoft and Siemens share the commitment to leverage existing standards and cross-organizational collaboration to enhance interoperability and drive the adoption of Industry 4.0 applications across digitally integrated global supply chains.

"By joining the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance, two major global players are demonstrating their commitment to openness in the industry. This underlines the attractive concept of our Alliance. We are proud of the accolade we have received from Microsoft and Siemens and are very excited about the many opportunities this opens up for the industry," says Nils Herzberg, Board Spokesperson of the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance and Global Head Strategic Partnerships for Digital Supply Chain and Industry 4.0 at SAP. "This is particularly relevant in today's environment, as digital transformation is advancing rapidly and technologies such as edge computing, AI and blockchain are setting new standards, the accession of Siemens and Microsoft is especially valuable. Together, the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance is helping to shape this transformation in an evolutionary way and anchor it with concrete, real-world use cases."

From the Cloud to the Edge with Microsoft

Microsoft has been helping manufacturing ecosystems realize the full business value of IT and OT for decades. Microsoft Azure cloud, edge and AI technologies and co-innovation with Microsoft partners have helped connect billions of different assets, process massive amounts of real-time data, and seamlessly connect people, assets, workflow and business processes.

"We want to help businesses close the gap between theory and practice and deliver interoperable Industry 4.0 solutions at scale. Our participation in the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance complements our long-standing engagement in industry alliances such as the OPC Foundation and the Open Manufacturing Platform," said Ulrich Homann, Corporate Vice President, Cloud + AI, at Microsoft. "Together, we can help businesses turn silos and productivity restraints into resilient operations and data-driven, integrated solutions across supply chains. By applying cloud, edge, and AI capabilities through open standards, manufacturers can reach the next level of productivity, accelerate the time to customer value and address changing market needs agilely."

From Edge to Cloud with Siemens

Siemens' Digital Enterprise portfolio of industry-leading automation and software solutions are driving digital transformation across the discrete and process manufacturing industries. Linking operational technology (OT) data from the entire lifecycle of products and production at the engineering and

manufacturing level with information technology (IT) at the business level enables Siemens customers to achieve a continuous cycle of optimization. From the MindSphere Industrial Internet of Things (IoT) service to the Industrial Edge, Siemens solutions are helping drive process improvements and sustainable innovations globally. Customers can for example develop innovative IoT applications to make production processes much more flexible and energy efficient.

"Siemens technology transforms the everyday, and we have been shaping industrial revolutions since our founding. Through digitalization and automation, we're driving digital transformation for our customers and helping them make better decisions by connecting data from the physical and virtual worlds," explains Stefan Gierse, Head of Strategy & Technology at Siemens Digital Industries. "Achieving the next industrial revolution will require a powerful ecosystem, so we're pleased to join the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance. By improving interoperability together we lay the foundation for the development of new IoT applications and business models that will help anybody benefit from Industry 4.0."

LinkedIn: Visit <https://www.linkedin.com/company/open-industry-4-0-alliance/>

Hashtag: #OI4Alliance #digelerate

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About the Open Industry 4.0 Alliance

The Open Industry 4.0 Alliance acts as a partnership of leading European industrial companies that pragmatically participate in the implementation of cross-vendor industry 4.0 solutions and services for manufacturing facilities and automated warehouses. The Alliance was launched in April 2019. The association is headquartered in Reinach, Switzerland.

Further information can be found at <https://www.openindustry4.com/>