STATUS AT 22 OCTOBER 2026 · DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

EMERGING-52 — consortium structure and partners sought

Adaptive human-AI collaboration at the industrial workstation · initiated by EEC Service, UAB (Lithuania)

Call	HORIZON-CL4-2027-02-DIGITAL-EMERGING-52-two-stage — human/AI collaboration for the workforce of the future (RIA)	**Deadline**	Stage 1: 2 February 2027. Stage 1 is evaluated blind on excellence and impact; the consortium is assessed at Stage 2
Scale	€4–6 million per project · lump sum · TRL 4–5 rising to 6	**Must have**	TRL 6 shown in a relevant industrial environment · SSH contribution · a business case

The concept

A closed loop at the industrial workstation: **measure** the operator, **interpret** the signal as stress, workload and fatigue in real time, **adapt** an AI co-pilot's level of autonomy to that state, and **act** through the machine itself — with the operator always in authority and the data governed under the AI Act regime that worker-state monitoring falls under. In the wider ecosystem, the aim is industrial jobs in which AI-based human-machine interaction supports well-being, inclusion, up-skilling and knowledge sharing, and machines that adapt to the people who work with them. The work would contribute to the Made in Europe and AI, Data and Robotics partnerships and the Apply AI Strategy, and build on earlier EU projects in extended reality. With co-learning and knowledge capture added, the concept aims to address all three of the topic's fields.

Current structure

Role	What it covers	Country	Status
Coordination	Overall management, EC liaison, lump-sum administration	—	OPEN · talks under way
Human-AI orchestration	Adaptive co-pilot; autonomy levels and handover (WP3 lead)	Italy	Concept drafted
Worker-state measurement	Sensor-agnostic interpretation of the cardiac stream (WP4 lead) — EEC Service	Lithuania	Initiating partner
Digital twins / process optimisation	Simulation of the line; process optimisation around the use case	Spain	Confirmed as partner
Robotics / physical-AI integration	Carrying adaptation into robots and industrial systems (WP5 lead)	Sweden / Egypt	Interest confirmed
Data governance and compliance	Consent, provenance, security; GDPR and AI Act assurance (WP6 lead)	Greece	Interest confirmed
Edge / near-sensor AI	Processing at the sensor; data minimisation at source	Netherlands	Soft-confirmed
Human factors / SSH	Use cases, ergonomics, ethics, field validation (WP2 lead)	Portugal	In discussion
Application / human-performance layer	Measured state into up-skilling and improvement	Netherlands	In discussion
Signal fusion and independent validation	EEG, skin conductance, gaze and task data; validating the interpreted state	Italy	In discussion
Knowledge capture / co-learning	Capturing expert shop-floor knowledge; guidance and up-skilling	Portugal / Lithuania	In discussion
Manufacturing use cases	Real production sites where the solution reaches TRL 6 (WP7)	LT / AL / PT	Candidates identified

Partners we are looking for

Coordinator (priority)

An organisation that has coordinated Horizon Europe RIAs — ideally in Cluster 4, manufacturing, AI or robotics — with capacity to lead a two-stage lump-sum proposal before 2 February 2027. Talks are under way; we aim to settle coordination in early November.

Manufacturing use cases

Candidates in metalworking, garment and footwear, and automotive plastics. Further manufacturers with real assembly or handling tasks are welcome; EEC Service would handle recruitment, consent and on-site measurement.

Signal fusion and validation

In discussion with a research group using EEG, skin conductance and eye tracking. Complementary expertise in multimodal or physiological signal processing remains welcome.

Knowledge capture and co-learning

In discussion: capturing expert shop-floor knowledge and feeding it back as guidance, so the concept addresses all three of the topic's fields.

Where EEC Service stands. Sensor at TRL 5, certified for EU electrical safety and EMC as a non-medical product. The interpretation layer runs on a chest-strap ECG or our own optical finger clip; equivalence between input sources and independent validation of the interpreted state are project work, not current claims. This is our first Horizon Europe cycle.

Partners are shown by role and country. Organisations are named only once each has agreed to be named. Nothing here is a commitment of a seat, a work package or a budget share.

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