



Management  
Technology &  
Innovation

**R&D  
MANAGEMENT**

Invitation to participate in a two-day workshop

## **Managing R&D, Technology and Innovation in the Process Industries**

Centre for Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship,  
Grenoble Ecole de Management, France, 5-6 May 2011

The Process Industries span several industrial sectors including minerals & metals, pulp & paper, food & beverages, chemicals & petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals, and constitute a substantial part of all manufacturing industry. Firms in the Process Industries may focus on being efficient commodity producers or on developing and marketing products and services with more advanced functionality and performance specifications. In both cases, the management of R&D, technology, and innovation is critical to sustainable corporate performance. Technology choice, process performance and efficiency, environmental issues and service delivery are all vital factors determining commercial success, economic viability and future prospects.

There are some key differences between the management of R&D, technology and innovation in the Process Industries and in other manufacturing industries. Development work is typically done in a laboratory/pilot plant environment and not at a design office, prototypes are replaced by test runs, customers are usually B2B, and the final quality of products is often strongly influenced by raw material properties and available process technology. Nevertheless, there are also fundamental similarities in the management of product and process innovation among firms in different sectors of the Process Industries.

The overall objectives of the workshop are to improve the theoretical platform and to promote a research agenda to develop better R&D methodologies and innovation practices. Established and new researchers are invited to submit papers. Day 1 will present and discuss selected papers. Day 2 will examine in more detail the scope for improvements in management methods and capabilities and develop the research agenda. The workshop planning and its design will involve managers and other professionals at various stages and will also be used to identify topics and potential papers for a special issue of the R&D Management journal.

Because of the character of the workshop, only a limited number of participants can be accommodated. Participants will be selected on the basis of abstracts and bios to assure a range of different perspectives on relevant topics and different sectors. Theoretical and empirical research papers (case studies) are encouraged.

Please send abstracts (max. 800 words) and a short bio before **15 October 2010**. Informal enquiries are welcomed to identify suitable topics. Please contact:

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