

# *Future Manufacturing Applied Research Centre*

## *Areas of Expertise:*

*Global and Network Manufacturing – Co-ordinator of the SYNERGY FP7 Project: Knowledge Orient Collaboration for Enterprise Interoperability in the Networked Enterprise.*

*West Midlands Metrology Centre – industry support, consultancy and training. Currently collaborating with ITER (International Thermonuclear Energy Research) fusion project. Advanced metrology equipment available to employ in research projects.*

*Advanced Joining Centre – engineering adhesives in safety critical applications. DTI “Bond Car” project. Also expertise and research in hybrid welding.*



# *Networked Enterprise Collaboration Testbed*

*Collaboration support tools are emerging from research into specific problems, but industrial take-up is slow because new methods of working are needed and depend upon clear understanding of the technological support available.*

*A Network Enterprise Collaboration Testbed will provide:*

- *A basis for independent testing and evaluation of support tools, technologies and methodologies*
- *A demonstration facility for these to encourage EU industry to expand its network capability so as to exploit low-volume, high-technology product opportunities, critical to successful competition for EU manufacturing*
- *A source of expertise for enterprises in defining their approach to networking and selecting appropriate tools*



# *Networked Enterprise Collaboration Testbed*

## *Approach:*

- *Bring together 6-8 university laboratories and SMEs with complementary manufacturing expertise (ranging from design to manufacture and logistics) to act as simulated network enterprise partners, together with expertise and interest in network enterprise research and implementation.*
- *Select one or more products which all or some partners can simulate (or even really) collaborate to produce.*
- *Establish internal service provision for collaboration support, as the infrastructure for partners or other to offer their networking services to the simulated network(s).*
- *Prove out testbed internally and then offer to all potential users of the technology.*



# *Networked Enterprise Collaboration Testbed*

## *Skills Needed*

- *University Groups with manufacturing expertise*
- *SMEs or other industrial partners with interest or experience in network manufacturing*
- *Service Oriented Architecture expertise*

*Scale: STREP – circa €4M*

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