

**ECHORD - European clearing house for open robotics development**  
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The European robotics industry plays a key role in maintaining our continent's industrial base. The robotics industry is strong, but fragmented and dispersed. In the future, cutting-edge technology resulting from top-level research will be the decisive factor for success. Europe not only has a powerful robotics industry, but can also boast superb research.

By drawing on these resources, ECHORD aims at producing new knowledge through advancing the state of the art in selected research foci and developing novel technology from which new products can be derived. Within ECHORD, opportunities for knowledge advancement and technology transfer between academia and industry will be created across the whole continent. This will be achieved through the solicitation of focused, small-size RTD projects, so-called experiments, which can be rapidly negotiated, funded and executed. Via these experiments, ECHORD will bring about a large-scale introduction of robotic equipment into research institutions.

This is expected to result in both tangible and measurable out-comes in terms of the accelerated development of technologies, as well as the deployment of robotics technology into new scenarios for the direct application of research results. For ECHORD, three such scenarios have been defined: human-robot co-working, hyper flexible cells, and cognitive factories. The foremost purpose of the scenarios is to define an environment that is both scientifically challenging to research institutions and commercially relevant to robot manufacturers.

**Coordinator**

**TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITAET MUENCHEN (Germany)**

**Other participants**

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DELLA BASILICATA (Italy)

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO (Italy)

SECONDA UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI (Italy)

FACULDADE CIENCIAS E TECNOLOGIA DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA (Portugal)

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI CASSINO (Italy)

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI ROMA TRE (Italy)

**Start date** 01/01/2009

**End date** 30/06/2012

**Duration** 42 mesi

**Project cost** 24.97 million euro

**Project Funding** 18.97 million euro

**Subprogramme Area** Cognitive systems, interaction, robotics

**Contract type** Collaborative project