

## Involvement of chemical industry in digital solutions

CEFIC has asked about the **starting point for digital solutions**. As chemical industry they for sure have a **significant purchase power** to help steer developments. They think there is a big potential here to explore for the new Industrial Policy next year. They have a number of digital projects running – self driving trucks, logistic pilots, predictive maintenance, use of big data for chemical trials/ testing. Two of the largest supercomputers in private hands are in their sector. They are likely one of the largest industrial purchasers of digital technologies in Europe. Can they help policy by using this purchasing power? How will the Commission involve industry in the digital strategy?

### Main messages

- In the short term, the biggest contribution that CEFIC members can provide is supporting the digitalisation of their value chains. While chemical industries are typically large and advanced in terms of digital maturity, their vendors and customers may be in very different situations – think e.g. about food or construction sectors. CEFIC members could consider the possibility of engaging with the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs, to support the take-up of digital technologies like HPC or Artificial Intelligence across all relevant sectors.
- CEFIC members (and other industrial associations) should be highly involved in the future industrial policy. We believe it is important to open a dialogue with the chemical industry to agree on the best ways to leverage the power of industrial data in the context of the twin green and digital transition. Today, 80% of industrial data is collected but never used. This is pure waste.
- For this reason, the Commission will be investing in industrial data spaces in the Digital Europe programme, which will enable industries to better share and reuse data. Such data spaces for example in manufacturing will offer a secure and trusted means to make data available and easily accessible. We hope for involvement of CEFIC members.

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