

The European Commission (EC) announces plans to support the digitisation of European industry with the investment of €50 billion in private and public funding in innovation, public services and standards.



Part of the proposal covers measures to speed the development of common standards in 5 priority areas-- 5G networks, cloud computing, the Internet of Things, data technologies and cybersecurity. The first initiative involves the creation of a European cloud providing researchers and science and technology professionals a virtual environment for the storage, management, analysis and re-use of large amounts of research data.

Another initiative has the EC set up large-scale pilot projects boosting IoT, advanced manufacturing and technologies for smart cities and homes, connected cars and mobile health services.

"Europe has a very competitive industrial base and is a global leader in important sectors. But Europe will only be able to maintain its leading role if the digitisation of its industry is successful and reached fast," digital economy and society commissioner Günther H. Oettinger says. "Our proposals aim to ensure that this happens. It requires a joint effort across Europe to attract the investments we need for growth in the digital economy."

The first fruits of the EC digitisation plan will be launched by of 2017.

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