

French aerospace company seeks large plastic manufacturers to machine a polyethylene tube of 800mm in diameter over 6 meters under the "Game Changing Innovations for European Launch Solutions 2026" call.

Summary

Profile type

Research & Development Request France

Company's country

POD reference

RDRFR20260210012

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement

Targeted countries

• **World**

Contact Person

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Term of validity

12 Feb 2026

12 Feb 2027

Last update

12 Feb 2026

General Information

Short summary

The French SME is submitting a proposal for a 3-years European Commission project targeting hot fire tests of a large autophage engine for launchers applications. The company is seeking for large scale plastic manufacturers to realise machining operations on the combustible fuselage, which is a large polyethylene tube of 800mm in diameter and 6 meters in length. The type of partnership that we are looking for is subcontracting. The company just was awarded with the Game Changing Innovations 2025

Full description

The company is submitting, as the coordinator, a proposal for a 3-years R&D project funded by a European Commission call “Game Changing Innovations for European Launch Solutions” for which the deadline is the 29th of April 2026. The project starts in 2027 and ends in 2029. The company just was awarded with the Game Changing Innovations for European Launch Solutions” in 2025.

The company seeks to perform hot fire tests on its large scale autophage engine, a major milestone on its launcher R&D roadmap. The French SME partners with 5 major companies to form a European consortium.

As part of the project activities, the company is seeking for a large-scale manufacturer as subcontractor capable of performing machining operations on a large polyethylene tube (800mm in diameter, 6 meters in length). The machining operations include external diameter machining, tap on the inner surface of the tube along its entire length, inner conical shape at one of the tube extremity. The raw tubes are sourced from extruder suppliers.

The subcontractor shall have expertise in manufacturing large scale polymer tubes and have the ability to tailor their solutions for their client needs. A manufacturing solution where the tap shape can be easily modified (just by changing the cutting or forming tool for example) is very appreciable.

The company will require around 20 tapped tubes from the end of 2027 until the end of the project in 2029.

The company does not need to be located in Europe.

Advantages and innovations

Technical specification or expertise sought

The company is seeking for a subcontractor to manufacture large scale polymer tubes. Preferred characteristics include technical expertise on manufacturing feasibility & ability to perform iterations on manufacturing methods until reaching a satisfactory result.

Stage of development

Under development

Sustainable Development goals

• **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

IPR Status

No IPR applied

IPR Notes

IPR Notes

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The partner is expected to :

- Advise the French company on the manufacturability of the combustible fuselage tap and propose changes/updates to improve manufacturing.
- Ability to machine tailored tool to perform all machining operations.
- Ability to produce at least 10-15 tubes per year, starting from raw extruded tubes.
- Provide costs/timeline of such operations

Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement

Type and size of the partner

- **Big company**
- **SME <=10**
- **SME 50 - 249**

Call Details

Framework program

Access to finance

Call title and identifier

PPPA-2026-Game-Changing Innovation for European Launch Solutions (PPPA-2026-LAUNCHERS-GAMECHANGING)

Submission and evaluation scheme

Anticipated project budget

Coordinator required

No

Deadline for EoI

27 Feb 2026

Deadline of the call

29 Apr 2026

Project duration in weeks

Web link to the call

Project title and acronym

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **02011006 - Propulsion**
- **02007014 - Plastics, Polymers**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **08001018 - Polymer (plastics) materials**
- **08001005 - Other fabricated plastics**
- **08001006 - Processes for working with plastics**
- **08001001 - Plastic fabricators**

Sector groups involved

- **Aerospace and Defence**