

Innovations sought to automate logistics processes in commercial kitchens to improve efficiency, workplace safety, and process quality

Summary

Profile type

Business request

Company's country

Germany

POD reference

BRDE20260722043

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement

Targeted countries

• All countries

Contact Person

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Term of validity

22 Jul 2026**22 Jul 2027**

Last update

22 Jul 2026

General Information

Short summary

A large operator in catering, school meals and company canteens from northern Germany seeks innovations to automate logistics processes (palletizing, filling, and transporting heavy containers, etc.) in a new commercial kitchen. SMEs specializing in flexible robotics, AI-powered image processing, and autonomous mobile systems are sought to for intelligent implementation into existing processes to improve efficiency, workplace safety, and process quality in the large modern commercial kitchen.

Full description

Logistical processes in the client's canteens are largely carried out by manual labor. Standardized machines are used in some cases, but there is a lack of end-to-end automation and intelligent integration of the processes.

Key logistics processes such as palletizing, filling, and the transport of heavy containers at the new production site are to be automated. For example, the use of flexible robotics, AI-supported image processing, and autonomous mobile systems is intended to increase efficiency, workplace safety, and process quality in institutional food service.

Initial research showed that the use of lightweight robots for simple palletizing tasks, automated filling systems in food production or mobile robotics to support intralogistics may be potential solutions. However, these solutions are often not flexible enough for dynamic production environments or are not sufficiently tailored to the requirements of institutional food service.

The client therefore searches for a solution with following characteristics:

- Automate palletizing, filling, and in-house transport
- Adapt flexibly to different products and packaging
- Meet hygiene standards and ensure safety for food production
- Utilize AI-powered image processing and sensor technology
- Integrate seamlessly into existing equipment and IT systems
- Be user-friendly, scalable, and adaptable

Please note:

Since this request is part of an innovation challenge, kindly answer the questions below within your EoI or write me an email.

1. Solution Approach

(Describe briefly and precisely: How do you solve this specific challenge? Please avoid promotional language and focus on the specific use case.)

2. Fulfillment of Specific Requirements

(Describe to what extent you meet the specific requirements of the use case)

3. What quantifiable impact does the solution deliver?

4. Maturity Level of the Solution (Please select)

- a) MVP/Prototype (ready for initial testing)
- b) Market-Ready (already in use by customers) or
- c) Scaled Product (established solution)

5. References

(Have you previously collaborated with an SME or an industrial company? If so, briefly describe the project and the outcome.)

Advantages and innovations

Technical specification or expertise sought

SMEs with solutions either in flexible robotics, AI-supported image processing, or autonomous mobile systems which may be integrated existing processes to improve efficiency, workplace safety, and process quality in institutional food service.

Stage of development

Available for demonstration

IPR Status

IPR Notes

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
- **Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The partner should provide a solution ready for pilot testing in the client's facilities. In case of successful testing the solution might be scaled up to further facilities.

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement

Type and size of the partner

- **SME 50 - 249**
- **SME 11-49**
- **SME <=10**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **08001004 - Food Processing**
- **02003001 - Process automation**
- **02001 - Design and Modelling / Prototypes**
- **02003006 - Prototypes, trials and pilot schemes**

Targeted countries

- **All countries**

Market keywords

- **02007011 - Manufacturing/industrial software**
- **08002003 - Process control equipment and systems**
- **08002005 - Machine vision software and systems**
- **02007016 - Artificial intelligence related software**
- **08002004 - Robotics**

Sector groups involved

- **Digital**
- **Agri-Food**