

MAGICIAN – AUTONOMOUS DEFECTS DETECTION AND REPAIR IN MANUFACTURING

Open call 2, Guide for Applicants

December 1st 2025

Closing date for the 2nd Open Call: 02.03.2026, 5 pm (Brussels Time)

Important: MAGICIAN offers 2 opens calls, the second one will close in
March 2026 and Implementation will start in June 2026

Short Description

The Guide for Applicants contains the basic information needed to guide you in preparing a proposal for submission to the MAGICIAN Open Calls. It gives an introduction on how to structure your proposal. It also describes how the proposal should be submitted, and the criteria on which it will be evaluated.

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 1 | GENERAL INFORMATION | 5 |
| 2 | SCOPE OF THE CALL | 7 |
| 3 | RULES AND CONDITIONS..... | 10 |
| 3.1 | ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES | 10 |
| 3.2 | TARGETED COMPANIES..... | 11 |
| 3.3 | ETHICAL ISSUES..... | 12 |
| 3.4 | FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIRD PARTIES RULES | 13 |
| 3.5 | FUNDING OF PROPOSALS..... | 13 |
| 3.6 | PARTNERS IN APPLICATION USE CASE..... | 15 |
| 3.7 | AVAILABLE MAGICIAN TECHNOLOGIES | 16 |
| 3.8 | APPLICATION USE CASE TYPE: SINGLE AUC # TWIN AUC | 17 |
| 3.9 | TECHNICAL AREAS | 18 |
| 4 | PROPOSAL CREATION AND SUBMISSION | 18 |
| 4.1 | ONE STAGE SUBMISSION..... | 18 |
| 4.2 | PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION LANGUAGE AND LENGTH..... | 18 |
| 4.3 | SUPPORT DURING THE CREATION OF THE PROPOSAL..... | 19 |
| 4.4 | SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS..... | 19 |
| 4.5 | ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT | 19 |
| 5 | PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION..... | 20 |
| 5.1 | ADMISSIBILITY AND ELIGIBILITY CHECK | 20 |
| 5.2 | PROPOSAL EVALUATION OVERVIEW | 20 |
| 5.3 | EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SCORE | 22 |
| 5.4 | AUC SELECTION..... | 24 |
| 5.5 | FEEDBACK TO APPLICANTS | 25 |
| 6 | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION | 25 |

| | | |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|
| 6.1 | CALL HELPDESK..... | 25 |
| 6.2 | THE INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS..... | 25 |
| 7 | CHECKLIST FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL | 27 |
| 8 | ANNEX 1- PROPOSAL TEMPLATE..... | 28 |
| 9 | ANNEX 2 -ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT..... | ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED. |

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| ACRONYM | DESCRIPTION |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| AUC | Application Use Case |
| FSTP | Financial Support To Third Party |
| IP | Intellectual Property |

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The **Guide for Applicants** contains the basic information needed to guide you in preparing a proposal for submission to the MAGICIAN Open Calls. It gives an introduction on how to structure your proposal, how to submit the proposal and what are the evaluation criteria applied.

Please note:

Every selected applicant will be required to sign a Standard Agreement, a model example will be provided to applicants before the Notification of Results at the MAGICIAN website [Home | MAGICIAN](#).

This Guide for Applicants does not supersede the rules and conditions laid out, in particular, in Council and Parliament decisions relevant to the Horizon Europe framework program.

MAGICIAN Summary

MAGICIAN project takes on the challenge of producing a modular automation solution in which robots are used to detect and rework production defects before the last production phases commence and the aesthetics of the product is finalised. The project will produce two robotic solutions, one for defect analysis (sensing robot - SR) and one for the defects' rework (cleaning robot, CR). The SR and the CR can be used separately, with the humans remaining in charge of some of the activities, or in combination, with the CR operating on the defects identified by the SR. The solution will be developed around a human-centered approach, which will allow to evaluate the impact of the innovation on the production processes and remove the most important asperities along this path. MAGICIAN project will generate research and human-centered processes in automation/robotics that considers effects and potential impacts on the workers and society, by improving collaboration, productivity and quality along with the enhancement of working conditions.

MAGICIAN consortium

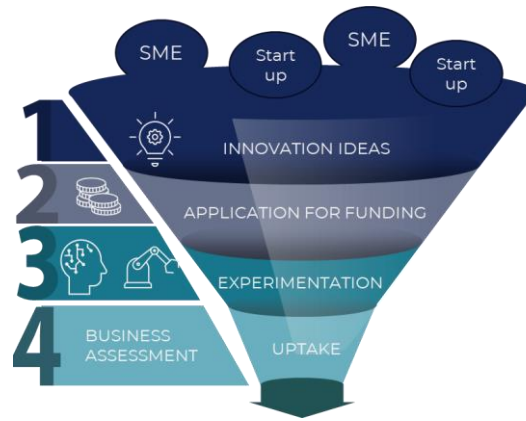
The MAGICIAN consortium brings together the following members:



UNITN, Italia
ALTINAY, Turkey
FORTH-ICS, Austria
HWH, Germany
IIT, Italy
Lund University, Sweden

Centro Ricerche FIAT (CRF), Italy
Pipple, Netherlands
Tofas, Turkey
Zabala Innovation Consulting, Belgium
Steinbeis Innovation gGmbH (SIG),
Germany

2 SCOPE OF THE CALL



The Second Open Call aims to explore how MAGICIAN capabilities can be applied across distinct use cases in close collaboration with MAGICIAN partners. The goal will be to further explore and validate the performance and adaptability of MAGICIAN framework within new and diverse real-time production environments.

As context, the MAGICIAN project combines collaborative robotics, AI-driven defect detection and repair, and human-centred design principles to produce a system that enhances productivity, safety, and ergonomics in manufacturing, while also considering ethical and social dimensions. To narrow the scope, the MAGICIAN consortium has defined a specific framework outlining the capabilities sought for the MAGICIAN solution. In addition, participants should take into account that the technical MAGICIAN solution framework is meant to be applied in manufacturing processes for semi-finished products in the automotive sector. This Open Call aims to fund **5 distinct projects**, each addressing a specific use case designed to extend and demonstrate the applications of a maximum of 2 capabilities envisioned within the MAGICIAN framework for the future MAGICIAN solution, in innovative domains beyond the automotive sector.

The MAGICIAN framework is structured around a set of interrelated technological and human-centred pillars. At its core, it brings together **Collaborative Robotic** Platforms capable of **detecting and repairing defects** on surfaces by combining advanced visual and tactile sensing with high-capacity robotic arms and precision tools. These platforms are empowered by **Perception and Learning Systems** that merge multimodal sensory inputs with artificial intelligence models to enable accurate defect recognition and facilitate human-to-robot skill transfer through Learning from Demonstrations and semi-supervised learning techniques. These capabilities are supported by **Control and Motion Systems** designed to ensure safety and efficiency during defect reworking tasks; together with planning and scheduling mechanisms that optimize robotic movements and task coordination in shared environments. Complementing these layers, the

framework incorporates **Configuration Optimization and Validation Tools**, which can adapt robotic parameters to diverse manufacturing scenarios and enable real-time defect detection and correction in welding through closed-loop control. Its foundation is further strengthened by **Validated Datasets and Algorithms** that provide reliable training for **AI models**, employing methods such as FFT, PCA, and deep learning for inline defect analysis. Besides, the framework embeds **Human-Robot Interaction Design principles** to ensure safe and ergonomic collaboration between humans and robots, involving workers directly in the design and testing phases to enhance usability, safety, and acceptance. Finally, the MAGICIAN framework also integrates ethical, social, and gender considerations across all its capabilities.

The MAGICIAN framework aspects described above are directly aligned with the following MAGICIAN capabilities envisioned by the consortium.

Please note that the Application Use Case proposals must adapt up to two of the following capabilities to one of the sectors listed below:

- **(C1.1) Capability 1.1 Sensors for accurate defect detection and classification** the objective of this capability is to advance defect detection and classification performance through the incorporation of additional non-invasive sensing technologies within the current MAGICIAN vision-based framework.
- **(C1.2) Capability 1.2 polarized camera system** which seeks to optimize the MAGICIAN polarized camera system for defect detection. The current prototype is based on a polarized camera with an upgraded 16mm lens, six polarized light sources, and Time-of-Flight (ToF) laser range sensors for plane measurement.
- **(C1.3) Capability 1.3 Increase defect removal and rework abilities** the MAGICIAN CR has the limit of reworking the body-in-white only for abrasion and removal of excess material. Due to this limitation, MAGICIAN framework had defined this capability as one of the possible funded solutions.
- **(C1.4) Capability 1.4 Annotation Tools for Multi-Modal Data** which aims to find innovative annotation tools specifically for multi-modal data, combining visual and tactile data for defect detection and classification.
- **(C1.5) Capability 1.5 Innovative approaches and architectures for improved defect detection and classification** The idea is to get an improvement in defect detection by using annotated visual data acquired from the MAGICIAN polarized camera system. The aim is to exploit available datasets to design and train models for real-time defect analysis, integrating relevant features such as defect size, type, and severity. The resulting systems should aim

to match human performance in accuracy and precision or potentially exceed it in specific aspects, as well as it should have the potential to account for industrial constraints.

- **(C2.1) Capability 2.1 Human Observation** The MAGICIAN first solution employs Dynamic Motion Primitives (DMPs) and Riemannian manifolds to model and transfer human skills for defect detection and correction to the CR. This capability focuses on advancing motion modeling to enhance human-level precision, while simultaneously addressing critical aspects such as scalability, computational efficiency, and robustness.
- **(C2.2) Capability 2.2 Human Interface and Interaction** In its first version, the MAGICIAN solution comes with a simple GUI on a tablet in which the human worker can check if the defects are correctly detected and classified by the SR and then if they are correctly removed by the CR. The Consortium is looking for more flexible interfaces, which should demonstrate bidirectional functionality.

Finally, below a list of **targeted sectors** deemed suitable for adapting and validating the MAGICIAN framework capabilities within the five innovative use cases targeted by this call. Each proposal application should target maximum one sector.

Please note that the list below is exclusive and exhaustive. Only the sectors explicitly mentioned are considered eligible Use Cases under this Open Call:

- **Aerospace:** defect detection in components and systems for the aerospace industry; reworking of minor surface defects on aircraft panels and structural components.
- **Electronics:** PCB and motherboard manufacturing defect detection; automated reworking of boards through precise resoldering, component replacement, and micro-repair operations.
- **Heavy Industry & Energy:** The processed stone and marble industry for building and interior applications; production of large components and systems for energy production, e.g., solar energy, wind energy, turbines, etc., or energy storage, e.g., converters, batteries, etc; robotic inspection of welded joints, castings, or machined components to detect cracks and porosity.
- **Interior design components:** wood manufacturing of components for furniture and appliances; the building components industry, specifically for millwork, doors, fixtures, laminates and windows.
- **Maritime & shipbuilding:** components and structure defect check for maritime transportation.
- **Public transports:** safety structure and components check for large transportation systems, e.g., train, airplanes, buses.

- **Intermediate components based on glass, plastic, textile:** Manufacturing processes involving semi-finished components made of glass, plastic, or textile materials for use in various industrial applications. This includes quality inspection and defect detection on transparent, flexible, or composite materials; automated handling and surface finishing of molded or laminated parts; and precision reworking of minor defects such as scratches, bubbles, or inconsistencies in coatings and textures.
- **White goods:** Production and assembly of large household appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, ovens, and dishwashers. This includes surface inspection of metallic and plastic panels, detection of assembly or coating defects, and automated reworking or polishing of visible exterior components to ensure high aesthetic and functional standards.

3 RULES AND CONDITIONS

To avoid conflicts of interest, applications involving or coming from persons or organizations who are partners in the MAGICIAN consortium or who are formally linked to partners of the MAGICIAN consortium will not be accepted. For the purposes of this call for proposals, “organizations formally linked to the partners” of the MAGICIAN consortium are understood according to the definition of affiliated entities and third parties with a legal link to a beneficiary described within the Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement – Art. 12 — CONFLICT OF INTEREST (available at: [aga_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)).

In addition, in order to guarantee fair accessibility condition and distribution of funding, applicants already selected as beneficiaries under Magician Open Call 1 will not be considered eligible for funding under the present open call (OC2).

3.1 ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

Legal entities established in the following countries are eligible to receive funding through this Open Call:

- Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU), including their overseas departments
- The Horizon Europe Associated Countries

The EU Associated Countries participate in Horizon Europe under the same conditions as the EU Member States. A list with all eligible associated Countries can be found here:

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/association-horizon-europe_en

Legal entities established in any other country or region cannot receive funding in this open Call.

3.2 TARGETED COMPANIES

MAGICIAN is targeting the following types of companies from the eligible countries mentioned above:

- Startups
- Small and Medium Sized Enterprises¹

A legal entity will be considered **an SME** if it complies with the European Commission's definition. The main factors defining an enterprise as an SME are (i) staff headcount and (ii) either turnover or balance sheet total, as specified in the table below:

Table 1: SME definition

| Company category | Staff headcount | Turnover | Balance sheet total |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------------|
| Medium-sized | < 250 | ≤ € 50 m | ≤ € 43 m |
| Small | < 50 | ≤ € 10 m | ≤ € 10 m |
| Micro | < 10 | ≤ € 2 m | ≤ € 2 m |

With regard to startups, in the Guide for Applicants under the definition table, start-ups are categorized as "Micro-sized enterprises." startups should have a maximum of **five years of existence** or possess an official certificate confirming their establishment, issued, for example, by a chamber of commerce. This document must be uploaded together to the proposal file in the application process.

Further requirements on the European Commission's SME definition can be found at: <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition/>

Any applicant commits itself:

1) to have at the moment of the submission of the application, or at the latest by the kick-off of the AUC activities (corresponding to the entry into force of the Standard Agreement), the necessary stable and sufficient resources to implement the MAGICIAN Solution;

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

- 2) to guarantee that its organisation is not in any situation which would exclude them from receiving financial support (including pending financial procedures concerning frauds or inappropriate management or undue previous appropriation of funds from other funding programs),
- 3) not to cumulate the MAGICIAN funding with other forms of financial support for the same work (i.e. exclusion of double funding case).

3.3 ETHICAL ISSUES

MAGICIAN complies with the European policies regarding data protection and privacy and respects fundamental ethical issues particularly those outlined in the “European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity”.

Each AUC is responsible for respecting European policies regarding data protection and privacy, in particular to be GDPR compliant.

All data that are involved (collected, generated, stored) into an Application Use Case or that are processed in an AUC must be GDPR compliant and therefore completely anonymized beforehand.

For more information on ethical issues, please consult the documentation provided by the European Commission: [how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/eip-ai/ai-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf)

The MAGICIAN consortium respects the European Ethics Guidelines Trustworthy AI, with the guarantee that AI systems are not only ethical and socially robust, but also operate harmoniously throughout their entire lifecycle, promoting trust in new AI technologies.

For more information on Ethics Guidelines Trustworthy AI please consult the documentation provided by the European Commission: [Ethics Guidelines for AI \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/eip-ai/ai-ethics-guidelines_en.pdf)

All applicants have to confirm if their proposal does or does not have ethical issues by selecting the relevant checkboxes in the proposal template. If you suspect that you have to answer “Yes” to any of the questions in the template, please contact a MAGICIAN Partner for guidance the issue.

The MAGICIAN consortium may check during the evaluation of a proposal if this declaration is in line with the contents of the proposal itself and reserves itself the right to contact the companies for clarification and eventually take necessary steps depending on the ethical issues.

3.4 FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIRD PARTIES RULES

As per European Commission's rules, companies have the possibility to participate in different open calls during MAGICIAN entire duration.² In that case, the maximum possible financial support per MAGICIAN project is limited to **200 000 €**. Financial support to third parties is called cascade funding.

The limited amount does not include any EC contribution that your organization receives or has received via an EU-funded project (within Horizon Europe) as a fully associated beneficiary.

As per the European Commission's rules, financial support will not be awarded for work that was previously or is currently funded under any other (Regional, National or EU) program.

3.5 FUNDING OF PROPOSALS

The funding of proposals will follow the Financial Support to Third Party rules detailed in the previous section (3.4).

The **maximum funding** per Application Use Case is **200 k€**, at a funding rate of **70%** of the budget for **SMEs**, reaching up to **100%** of the budget in case of **Start-ups**. This refers to the base configuration, more details in section 3.6.

Each **Application Use Case budget** will include justifications of cost and resources. The total European Commission available funding per Application Use Case will represent 70% of the total cost involved by selected **SMEs**, and 100% of the costs involved by selected **Start-ups**.

The amount of financial support will be calculated on the basis of the estimated costs. Each AUC will include an implementation plan including milestones and deliverables, and a cost estimate justifying the costs and resources in relation to the implementation plan. The selected company(-ies) will receive funding distributed in three stages:

1. **Pre-financing (up to 50%)**: An initial payment of up to 50% of the total funding amount will be provided upon the successful completion of the Kick-off Meeting (KoM).

² Applicants of MAGICIAN OC1 are allowed to apply to MAGICIAN OC2

2. **Intermediate Payment (up to 35%):** A second instalment of up to 35% will be disbursed following the submission and approval of a status report. This report should include updates on the Work Package (WP) progress, a risk assessment, and financial reporting for the pre-financing amount.
3. **Final Payment (remaining balance, up to 15%):** The final payment, covering the remaining funding amount, will be made at the conclusion of the AUC, contingent upon the successful achievement of milestones and/or deliverables.

The AUC **budget** must follow Horizon Europe rules, among them:

- It must respect the limit of **15%** for specific subcontracting tasks that neither the MAGICIAN partners nor the Third Party can carry out
- The Third Party shall not make a profit from the EC funding

Budget categories/activity types:

A. Personnel costs:

- A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
- A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries

B. Subcontracting costs

C. Purchase costs

- C.1 Travel and subsistence,
- C.2 Equipment,
- C.3 Other goods, works and services

E. Indirect costs

Indirect costs will be reimbursed at the flat-rate of **25%** (categories A-D, except volunteers' costs, subcontracting costs, financial support to third parties and exempted specific cost categories, if any).

It is strongly recommended that travel costs for dissemination in the "*other direct costs*" budget are included in the budget up to a limit of **10k**.

Please consider that all budgeted costs must comply with the applicable national law on taxes, labor and social security and must be in compliance with the rules and conditions laid out in Council and Parliament decisions relevant to the Horizon Europe framework program, in particular - but not exclusively - "Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021"

Provisions for possible future losses or charges, exchange losses, costs related to return

on capital, costs reimbursed in respect of another Union action or program, debt and debt service charges and excessive or reckless expenditure are **ineligible costs** and **cannot be included** into the budget.

The expected **duration** of an Application Use Case is **targeted for 12 months**.

3.6 PARTNERS IN APPLICATION USE CASE

MAGICIAN partners support selected third parties in different ways and roles: AUC can be promoted by one single applicant (Single AUC) or by a small consortium of maximum 2 organizations (Twin AUC), as summarized in the following table.

| Single AUC | Twin AUC |
|--|---|
| <p>BASE CONFIGURATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Third party (= the applying company) • MAGICIAN Competence partner • Cascade funding partner (ZAB) • 200 k€ max of cascade funding for the applying company | <p>BASE CONFIGURATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Third parties (= the applying company(ies)) of which one should be a technical partner and another one an early adopter of the selected sector • MAGICIAN Monitoring partner • Cascade funding partner (ZAB) • Each applying consortium receives a max of 200 k€ of cascade funding each • One of the two legal entities in the applying consortium will be designated as the coordinator and will serve as the sole point of contact with the MAGICIAN counterparts <p><i>Due to the Use Case focus of the OC2, twin configuration including an early adopter of the selected sector would be considered as a preferable option</i></p> |

For Twin AUC, one of the two legal entities applying will have to be designated as **the coordinator** of the project at application phase. Its duties are i) to ensure that the proposal is in line with the companies expectations and targets, ii) to make sure that both the administrative declarations and the ethical issues section (§4) of the proposal are fully completed on behalf of the two third parties, iii) to be the privileged contact with the MAGICIAN partners and ensuring smooth communication, iv) will be the point of contact receiving the fund and distribute them among the consortium.

MAGICIAN Monitoring Partner refers to MAGICIAN partner which is assigned to each Application Use Case Selected. Its role includes **(a)** Scheduling a monthly monitoring meeting to verify that the technical activities of the third parties are progressing as

planned; **(b)** Review and formally approve Status report at M6 and M12 (end of project) to authorise mid and final payment **(c)** Acting as the main point of contact for any technical issues that may arise. **(d)** Being responsible for monitoring the MAGICIAN results to be used by the Selected Third Party as background IP for the implementation of the Application Use Case.

MAGICIAN coordinator partner (UniTN) is in charge of the cascade funding (FSTP) payment to the coordinator of the two Third parties or the unique applicant in case of Single AUC, following the payment schedule described in the standard contract and the validation of the Status report, milestones and associated deliverables by the monitoring partners.

3.7 AVAILABLE MAGICIAN TECHNOLOGIES

MAGICIAN provides access to advanced technologies and industrial platforms that are developed by the Consortium, such as:

- Collected datasets (defect collections, human motions inside the working cells for defect detection and reworking, camera and touching sensor data)
- CAD design and mounting instructions for the designed sensing system and grinding tool
- Testing facilities, including testing robots, for solutions fine-tuning
- Support in software integration and solution adaptation
- Application domain knowledge

Beneficiaries' solutions can be independent but they must interoperate with the foreseen MAGICIAN component or with the entire platform. Indeed, it is essential that the proposed solutions are fully compatible and able to interoperate with MAGICIAN's current software and hardware specifications, communication system, and computational requirements to enable effective collaboration. These specifications include:

- Robotic system, which consists of a Doosan H2515 with a tool output flange (Standard ISO9409-1-50-4-M6) and a maximum payload of 25 kg
- The rated power outlet at the end effector (1000W)
- Computing power of the onsite workstation that consists of one high-end desktop computer with one CPU and one dedicated NVIDIA GPGPU.
- API and software interfaces, which build upon Linux 22.04 as operating system and ROS2 Humble as communication middleware, together with a description of the developed algorithms and functionalities

- The software developed by the consortium to provide vision capabilities to the Magician platform is based on Keras 3+/Tensorflow 2.18.0+ and is written in Python 3.10+ , C and C++. Usage of mature standard open-source libraries such as OpenCV and NumPy is preferred. Docker containers could be used to facilitate integration to our platform, however targeting a similar development environment reducing code surface will be ideal.
- Git and GitHub version control software to host the code
- Hardware interfaces for the onsite workstation (e.g., USB and Gigabit Ethernet)
- Comply with the automation standard
- Time and quality requirements of the defect inspection and removal production line according to the automotive standards

3.8 APPLICATION USE CASE TYPE: SINGLE AUC # TWIN AUC

Two types of Application Use Case are supported by MAGICIAN in this open call:

- **SINGLE AUC:**

Base configuration

- *a single AUC involves one European company that brings an idea of innovation can be included to the existing MAGICIAN solution and that thus will have a potential market vision. The maximum cascade funding grant available for the company is 200 k€.*
- *One MAGICIAN technical partner brings the technical expertise to the European company.*
- *One MAGICIAN innovation partner is associated, bringing its expertise on innovation management and business.*
- *Together with UNITN as project coordinator, they will constitute a dedicated unit of work, committed together through the signed standard and specific AUC agreement, if selected.*

- **TWIN AUC:**

- *A twin AUC involves two European companies, preferably but not mandatorily from different countries, that are associated in a small consortium to build together a proposal and to manage it to its realization, if selected. The maximum cascade funding grant available will be **200 k€ for each consortium.***
- *Company #1 brings an idea of innovation, a clear market vision and needs complementary expertise to validate the concept. This legal entities within the applying consortium will be designated as the **coordinator** and will be the sole point of contact for all communications with the MAGICIAN counterparts.*
- ***Company #2 brings complementary expertise to realize the Solution, preferably being an early adopter of the proposed solution for the targeted sector***
- *One MAGICIAN partner is associated to monitor the good realization of the project, based on the defined workplan.*
- *Together with UNITN as project coordinator, they will constitute a dedicated consortium, committed together through the signed standard and specific AUC agreement, if selected. Both European companies will receive cascade funding based on the workplan and payment schedule conditions defined in the standard and specific AUC agreement.*

3.9 TECHNICAL AREAS

MAGICIAN welcomes proposals limited to, the following fields (see section 2 for detailed description of targeted use cases): Aerospace, Electronics, Heavy Industry & Energy, Interior design components, Maritime & shipbuilding, public transports, Intermediate components based on glass, plastic, textile, and White goods.

4 PROPOSAL CREATION AND SUBMISSION

4.1 ONE STAGE SUBMISSION

Proposals for a MAGICIAN Application Use Case are submitted in a single stage, by submitting a complete proposal through our submission portal: <https://www.magician-project.eu/>

After completing the fields indicated in the application form, each applicant needs to upload a proposal description file, a technical description (including a business-oriented description): small document (max 15 pages) written in English and submitted under pdf format and name the document as follows: **PROJECT TITLE_ COMPANY'S NAME³. PDF**

4.2 PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION LANGUAGE AND LENGTH

The proposal description has to follow the structure of the proposal template provided in Annex 1 of this document. The template can be downloaded from the open call website as a Microsoft-Word file: [Resources & Findings | MAGICIAN](#)

The proposal has to be written in English. Proposals submitted in any other language will not be evaluated. The proposal has to be submitted under a pdf format.

The proposal (technical sections, i.e. Excellence, Impact and Implementation) **should not exceed 15 pages in length** (recommended Arial or Times New Roman font, minimum font 11), not including the title page, the administrative declarations and section 4. (Ethical Issues) of the proposal. Applicants are free to provide limited additional information such as letters of support or additional data or references in the Appendix that does not count to this page count. It is recommended that applicants include in their proposals also innovation management/business development actions to be subsequently implemented.

³ In case of TWIN AS, please use the 1st company's name (the coordinator)

4.3 SUPPORT DURING THE CREATION OF THE PROPOSAL

Applicants are **strongly encouraged to contact MAGICIAN operational support through the following email OpenCall@magician-project.eu**, in order to get more information on the technologies available, the Innovation management services and advice on how to create a successful proposal prior to submitting.

Applicants can contact MAGICIAN thanks to:

- MAGICIAN weekly helpdesk (every Tuesday, 17h00 – 18h00): ([MAGICIAN Second Open Call helpdesk](#))
- Participation in webinar and by accessing its recorded session

Past experience indicates that proposals with engagement before submission are more likely to succeed.

4.4 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals in MAGICIAN are submitted through our dedicated proposal submission portal.

Only proposals submitted through this portal before the closure of the call will be evaluated after its closure. Proposals must be received by the closing time and date of the call (**02/03/2026 Monday at 5:00pm, Brussels Time**). Late proposals or proposals submitted to any other address or by any other means will not be evaluated.

If one of the mandatory documents is missing (pdf file) and/or it is not submitted according to the guidelines of the format and name of the document, the proposal will be considered as incomplete and therefore will not be evaluated.

If you discover an error in your proposal, you can at any time - provided the call deadline has not passed - submit a new version of your proposal in our portal. Only the last version received before the call deadline will be considered in the evaluation.

All proposals will be evaluated as submitted; after the close of a call, no additions or changes to received proposals will be taken into account.

Do not wait until the last minute to submit the final version of your proposal. A complete proposal includes the proposal description (pdf document). Failure of your proposal to arrive on time for any reason, including communication delays, is not acceptable as a delay circumstance. The time of receipt of your submission as recorded by the portal system will be definitive.

4.5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

The submission of a proposal will be confirmed by the proposal submission system through an automated email received from OpenCall@magician-project.eu.

The acknowledgement of receipt will be emailed to you by MAGICIAN project (**see Annex 2** of this document).

The sending of an acknowledgement of receipt does not imply that your proposal has been accepted as eligible for evaluation.

5 PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION

5.1 ADMISSIBILITY AND ELIGIBILITY CHECK

A proposal is eligible if it complies to the following requirements

1. The proposal description is written in English
2. It was submitted by a legal entity established in one of the countries mentioned in section 3.1 Eligible countries
3. Its content corresponds to the call topic description (in scope/out of scope)
4. The proposal is cross-border and the company(ies) are from Eligible countries (see §3.1)
5. The company(ies) are Start-up or SME (see definition in §3.2)
6. The proposal applies for a max of 2 capabilities within the sectors listed in the scope

A proposal will only be deemed “out of scope” in clear-cut cases when there is no obvious link between the proposal and the scope of the call. Special consideration will be given to the realistic exploitation of the proposed new use cases. If the proposal is partially within the scope of the call, it will be evaluated in any case.

If any of the above criteria do not apply to a proposal, the applicant will be informed about it and the proposal will not be furthered into the evaluation process. In any other case, the proposal will be evaluated as described in the following sections 5.2 and 5.3 of this document.

5.2 PROPOSAL EVALUATION OVERVIEW

MAGICIAN project will evaluate proposals received in the open calls in the light of the criteria that govern the European Commission’s original evaluation and selection of their projects. All evaluations are carried out in the light of the same basic principles:

- **Excellence:** The proposals selected for funding must demonstrate a high quality in the context of the topics and criteria set out in the call
- **Transparency:** Funding decisions are based on clearly described rules and procedures, and all applicants will receive adequate feedback on the outcome of the evaluation of their proposals
- **Independence:** Evaluators assess proposals on a personal basis. Evaluators represent neither their employer nor their country.

- **Impartiality:** All proposals submitted to a call are treated equally. They are evaluated impartially on their merits, irrespective of their origin or the identity of the applicants⁴.
- **Objectivity:** Evaluators assess each proposal as submitted⁵ not on its potential if certain changes were to be made.
- **Accuracy:** Evaluators make their judgment against the official evaluation criteria of the call or topic the proposal addresses, and nothing else.
- **Consistency:** Evaluators apply the same standard of judgment to all proposals.
- **Confidentiality:** All proposals and related data, knowledge and documents are treated in confidence

The evaluation of Application Use Case proposals is based on scores given according to three criteria:

| Criteria | Associated documents |
|------------------------|---|
| Excellence | These 3 criteria will be evaluated through the proposal description (pdf document). |
| Impact | |
| Implementation Quality | |
| | <u>The impact section must provide a business case-oriented description.</u> |

The evaluation criteria and the scoring system are described in detail in the next section of this document. The evaluation process in MAGICIAN follows the three basic steps:

- External experts will evaluate all the proposals with regards to the criteria of Excellence, Impact and Quality of implementation.
- A business case evaluation will be done through business case-oriented description in the impact section inserted by the applicant
- MAGICIAN evaluation committee will perform a global evaluation of the proposals based on the results of both the technical and business case evaluation, in regard to the criteria of Excellence, Impact and Quality

The external experts are individuals from different sectors: science, industry or academic and with experience in the field of innovation. These experts are internationally recognised authorities in the relevant specialist area and are independent of any member of the consortium and of any proposer. They will also sign a non-disclosure form with MAGICIAN to ensure the confidentiality of the proposals.

⁴ In the frame of any restrictions provided for in the call

⁵ This includes the input made during phone interview for the business case evaluation as described below

Each of the three steps, described above will assign a score to each proposal in the following way:

- Each external expert will assign a score between 1 and 5 to each of the criteria mentioned above. The assigned scores of the experts will be averaged for each criterion to get one single score for each criterion.
- MAGICIAN evaluation committee will assign a score between 1 and 5 to each of the criteria mentioned above.

During MAGICIAN evaluation & selection meeting, each proposal will be discussed, and a consensus formed on the scoring. To achieve a single score for each of the criteria of *Excellence*, *Impact* and *quality Implementation* the scores of MAGICIAN Evaluation committee and the score of the external experts (which has been combined into a single score for each criterion as described above) will be averaged.

A total score of a proposal is reached by calculation the sum of all individual scores of the evaluated criteria of a proposal. Each criterion is equally weighted. Therefore, the overall maximum score for an Application Use Case proposal is 15. However, in the event of proposals receiving the same score, the final ranking will depend on the best value achieved in excellence, giving priority to the best proposals in terms of innovation, technical soundness and feasibility of the robotics and automation solution proposed, specifically for defect detection, rework processes and human-centered approach.

For a proposal to be considered for funding, each individual score must meet a minimum threshold, which is 3 out of 5 points. The total sum of the individual scores must reach the minimum threshold of 9 points.

5.3 EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SCORE

The evaluation of Application Use Case proposals will be based on scores given according to three basic criteria: *Excellence*, *Impact*, *Implementation* of the AUC solution.

The **Excellence** is evaluated according to the following criteria:

- How well does the proposed solution address the identified Use Case challenge as detailed in the open call text?
- Are the proposed objectives clearly defined, measurable, and relevant to the automation goals of the MAGICIAN project?
- Are the solution's objectives aligned with the needs of the target domain?
- How well does the proposed solution incorporate the required capabilities (e.g., defect analysis, AI-driven rework decision-making, real-time monitoring) in an innovative use case?

- How intuitive is the technology for the end-users? How easy can the technology be incorporated into MAGICIAN existing capabilities and in the new use case? How robust is the technology?
- How well does the proposed work align with the broader goals of the MAGICIAN project?
- To what extent is the proposed work ambitious, has innovation potential, and is beyond the state of the art (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches)?
- Is your solution expecting to achieve TRL7, aligning with MAGICIAN project target?
- Is the concept sound and shows a clear plan for the development of a working solution in collaboration with MAGICIAN?
- How effectively does proposal address gender and diversity considerations?
- Are potential ethical issues thoroughly identified and addressed?
- To what extent does the proposed work reflect a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility?

The **Impact** is evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Does the proposal enhance innovation capacity and the integration of new knowledge of the companies?
- How effectively does it integrate new knowledge, methodologies, or technologies in the selected domain?
- Are the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), to communicate the project, and to manage research data where relevant effective?
- How will data be organized, stored, and shared, ensuring compliance with relevant regulations and promoting transparency and reproducibility?
- How will the project contribute to responsible practices in the relevant domain applied?
- Are any other environmental and socially important impacts relevant? (e.g. sustainability, workforce safety, and community engagement).

The impact session must include a **business case-oriented description** of the AUC which will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Market attractiveness and scalability: The size and growth potential of the target market.
- Competitive position and market fit: The extent to which the proposed solution demonstrates clear differentiation from existing market offerings and addresses current industry needs while anticipating future trends.

- Business model, economic impact, and go-to-market readiness: The degree to which the solution provides tangible and quantifiable value (e.g., cost savings, efficiency gains, revenue potential), supported by a credible business model and robust quantifiable economic projections.

The **Quality** and the efficiency of the implementation will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- How effectively will the Application Use Case be managed throughout the project lifecycle? Is the proposed work plan coherent and effective in achieving project goals?
- Are Tasks, deliverables, deadlines well defined, realistic and adapted to the goals of the proposals?
- Is the allocation of tasks and dedicated resources (e.g. human capital, equipment, person-hours, etc.) appropriate and necessary to perform the scope of the proposal and achieve its objectives?
- Are the costs clearly defined, aligned, and justified with the required efforts?
- Have crucial risk (technological, operational, financial, etc.) to the success of the Application Use Case been identified and how effectively will those be managed
- Does the third party possess the technical skills and abilities necessary to perform the scope of the proposal?

The scores used during the evaluation process indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination:

- 1 – Proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2 – Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
- 3 – Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
- 4 – Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- 5 – Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

5.4 AUC SELECTION

The outcome of the evaluation will be a ranked list of all proposals, ordered in descending order by the total score obtained by the proposal.

As already mentioned in sections 5.1 and 5.3, the priority in the selection process will be given to the best proposals in terms of realistic exploitation of the proposed new use

cases, as well as to those proposal with a high level on innovation, technical soundness and feasibility of the robotics and automation, specifically for defect detection, rework processes and human-centered approach.

Depending on the available budget for funding, the available resources for the technological offer of the MAGICIAN consortium members, the number of eligible and fundable proposals in the call, 5 proposals- based on this ranked list - will be selected for funding. Whilst normally the highest-ranked proposals will be selected for funding, there might be objective reasons (as mentioned above) for objecting to a specific third party. In this case, the choice may pass to the next-ranked proposal.

The 5 selected proposals will be reported the MAGICIAN project officer of the European Commission for a final granting decision.

5.5 FEEDBACK TO APPLICANTS

After the evaluation of the proposals, all applicants will be informed if their application Solution was accepted or not. The first call notifications are planned to be released on **30th April 2026**.

In case a proposal is selected, the applicant will receive a short summary of the evaluation outcome along with further information about the upcoming steps. In case a proposal is not granted, they will receive a full evaluation report, including an extended summary with the main remarks of the evaluation to allow the improvement of the proposal for future submissions. In any case, it is allowed to resubmit proposals to MAGICIAN's further Open Calls.

6 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 CALL HELPDESK

For further information on the call, access to our weekly **helpdesk, available every Tuesday, from 17h00 – 18h00 during the three-month open call period:** [MAGICIAN Second Open Call helpdesk](#)

Email: OpenCall@magician-project.eu

6.2 THE INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

All partners involved in a funded and implemented Application Use Case will sign a standard agreement before the Application Use Case starts. All information of whatever nature and in whatever form or mode of communication, which is disclosed by a Party to any other during the implementation of the Application Use Case and which has been

explicitly marked as “confidential” at the time of disclosure, or when disclosed orally, has been identified as confidential at the time of disclosure and has been confirmed and designated in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days from oral disclosure, is “Confidential Information” and shall not be disclosed to any other third party.

Ownership of the developed product of an Application Use Case will remain with the third party. In case any IP is transferred or developed during the implementation of the Application Use Case, a bilateral contract between the involved parties will be concluded to define the exploitation rules.

7 CHECKLIST FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL

Please consider this checklist as a helpful tool to maximize the chances of your proposal to be successful:

1. **Fill in with your information in our website** and **contact a MACIAN Partner for support, if needed.**
2. **Does your planned work fit with the call for proposals?** Check that your proposal does indeed address the topic in this open call.
3. **Is your proposal eligible?** The eligibility criteria are given in chapter 3 of the guide for applicants. Make sure that you satisfy the formal participation requirements (eligible country, written in English)
4. **Readability:** Check that your proposal printable and all information (especially in charts, figures etc.) is readable.
5. **Budgetary limits:** Check that you comply with the budgetary limits.
6. **Did you use the current template?** All proposals have to be based on the current proposal template available on the website [Home | MAGICIAN](#)
7. **Is your proposal complete?** Have you completed all mandatory questions?
8. **Does your proposal answer all requests/comments?** Proposals should be precise, concise and should answer to requested questions. Omitting requested information will almost certainly lead to lower scores in the evaluation.
9. **Have you submitted your proposal before the deadline?** It is strongly recommended not to wait until the last minute to submit the proposal. **The deadline is March 2nd , 2026 at 5 p.m. Brussels time**

8 ANNEX 1- PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

CALL INFORMATION

IDENTIFIER: Magician02 Call (OC2_AUC2)

PROJECT FULL NAME: Immersive Learning For Imperfection Detection And Repair Through Human-Robot Interaction

ACRONYM: MAGICIAN

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 101120731

DEADLINE: 02.03.2026, 5 PM (CET)

Note:

All parts of this document in **red** are explanatory guidance notes. Please delete these guidance notes and replace them with your own text.

Title: *[Application Use Case Name]*

Acronym of the Application Use Case (AUC) *[Short Name, less than 10 characters recommended]*

Do not delete headings, subheadings and tables.

TEMPLATE OF PROPOSAL of Single and Twin Application Use Case

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The maximum total length of the technical proposal (Section 1-3) must not exceed 15 pages (minimum font dimension 11, font Calibri, minimum margins 1,5 up/down - 1,5 left/right) not including the title page, the administrative declarations and Section 4 - Ethical issues.

Proposals exceeding the page length indicated will be penalized as any page beyond the allowed length will not be read or taken into account during the evaluation process.

Exceeded pages allowed: Applicants are free to provide limited additional information such as letters of support or additional data or references in the Appendix that does not count to this page count.



SINGLE AUC



TWIN AUC

For a **Single AUC proposal**, please fulfil below the column “Single AUC”.
For a **Twin AUC proposal**, please fulfil below the column “Twin AUC” for both companies.

| Single AUC One company | Single / Twin AUC | |
|---|---|---|
| | Company #1: coordinator | Company #2 |
| Participant organisation/company: <i>[Organization/Company name]</i> | Participant organisation/company: <i>[Organization/Company name]</i> | Participant organisation/company: <i>[Organization/Company name]</i> |
| Organization/Company Number: <i>[Organization/Company number or national equivalent if available]</i> | Organization/Company Number: <i>[Organization/Company number or national equivalent if available]</i> | Organization/Company Number: <i>[Organization/Company number or national equivalent if available]</i> |
| Organization/Company Website <i>[URL /link if available]</i> | Organization/Company Website <i>[URL /link if available]</i> | Organization/Company Website <i>[URL /link if available]</i> |
| Country: | Country: | Country: |
| Contact person name: <i>[Name]</i> | Contact person name: <i>[Name]</i> | Contact person name: <i>[Name]</i> |
| Contact person phone number: <i>[Phone number]</i> | Contact person phone number: <i>[Phone number]</i> | Contact person phone number: <i>[Phone number]</i> |
| Contact person email: <i>[Email address]</i> | Contact person email: <i>[Email address]</i> | Contact person email: <i>[Email address]</i> |
| Contact person position in the organization/company: <i>[Position in company]</i> | Contact person position in the organization/company: <i>[Position in company]</i> | Contact person position in the organization/company: <i>[Position in company]</i> |

Please make sure that your information here is the same that you entered in the submission portal.

Email address to which the acknowledgement of receipt should be sent:

[insert]

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. ADMINISTRATIVE DECLARATIONS..... | 32 |
| 2. PROPOSAL SUMMARY | 33 |
| 3. EXCELLENCE | 34 |
| 3.1. CONCEPT AND OBJECTIVES | 34 |
| 3.2. PROPOSED INNOVATION DESCRIPTION | 34 |
| 3.3. HUMAN-CENTERED PERSPECTIVE | 35 |
| 4. IMPACT | 35 |
| 4.1. INDUSTRIAL RELEVANCE & POTENTIAL IMPACT | 35 |
| 4.2. BUSINESS PLAN ORIENTED DESCRIPTION:..... | 36 |
| 5. IMPLEMENTATION..... | 36 |
| 5.1. COMPANY(IES) DESCRIPTION | 36 |
| 5.2. COOPERATION AND PARTNERS ROLE | 37 |
| 5.3. WORKPLAN INCLUDING THE PROJECT DURATION | 37 |
| 5.4. JUSTIFICATION OF PLANNED COSTS AND RESOURCES..... | 39 |
| 6. ETHICAL ISSUES | 40 |

ADMINISTRATIVE DECLARATIONS

Please answer the following questions. Failure to answer them might render the proposal ineligible to be selected for funding.

- In case of a SINGLE AUC with one applying company, to be fulfilled by the applicant
- In case of a TWIN AUC with two applying companies, to be fulfilled by company #1 (coordinator) on behalf of the two companies.

1. We confirm that the proposed work has not previously, or is not currently been funded under any other (Regional, National or EU) programme:

Yes No ⁶

If you select "No" or do not select anything here, the proposal might be ineligible to be selected for funding. Please contact MAGICIAN Helpdesk for guidance if you do not know how to answer this.

If appropriate or necessary, please add a comment here, explaining your answer to the question above.

2. We confirm that the company "*Coordinator company name*" does exist, is not bankrupted and have or will have the necessary stable and sufficient resources to implement the MAGICIAN Application Use Case,

Yes No

If you select "No" or do not select anything here, the proposal might be ineligible to be selected for funding. Please contact MAGICIAN helpdesk for guidance if you do not know how to answer this.

If appropriate or necessary, please add a comment here, explaining your answer to the question above.

⁶ If the option "No" has been selected but it is subsequently revealed that the proposed work has been previously funded by another program, MAGICIAN reserves the right to withhold the grant.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| ACRONYM | DESCRIPTION |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| AUC | Application Use Case |
| FSTP | Financial Support To Third Party |
| IP | Intellectual Property |

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Mandatory (maximum of 2000 characters including spaces)

Describe your proposal at a high level. It must be clear which capabilities and innovative use case your proposal is focusing on (see section 2.4 Guide For Applicants)

Please note that this information may be used for dissemination purposes.

1. EXCELLENCE

1.1. Concept and objectives

Describe the specific **concept and objectives** for the Application Use Case, which should be **clear, measurable, realistic and achievable** within the duration of the Application Use Case (max. duration 12 months)

Objectives should be consistent with the expected exploitation and impact of the Application Use Case. Illustrate how each objective can solve/reduce existing challenges in the specific sector. Objectives have to be accompanied by quantified KPIs, to demonstrate they are measurable, realistic, and achievable, and indicate the associated work package (WP⁷).

RECOMMENDED 2 PAGE

1.2. PROPOSED INNOVATION DESCRIPTION

Please provide an overview of the progress beyond the state of the art, the potential innovation and the targeted automation, defect management and system embedded:

Describe how you ensure to be GDPR compliant and how to respect security and privacy

Describe the advancements that your proposal offers beyond the state-of-the-art and explain how you wish to adapt it to the MAGICIAN framework. In this section participants must describe the state-of-the-art of its selected technologies, as well as the state-of-the-art of the sector where its innovative Use Case will be developed. Participants may indicate the TRL⁸ of their Application Use Case which must start from a TRL of 5, and the project must end with a TRL of 7. This TRL requirement is considered an exclusion criterion.

Describe the level of innovation of your proposed solution and the innovation potential, which the proposal represents for your company(ies). Where relevant, refer to products and services already available on the market. Please refer to the results of any patent search carried out.

Describe the measures to respect European policies regarding data protection and privacy, how you ensure to be GDPR compliant.

RECOMMENDED 1,5 PAGES

⁷ A work package (WP) is a major sub-division of the work plan of your project. (A single activity is not a WP, A single task is not a WP; A % of progress is not a WP e.g. 50 % of the tests; A lapse of time is generally not a WP e.g. activities of year 1) https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-funding-what-do-i-need-to-know_he_en.pdf

⁸ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq/2890>

1.3. HUMAN-CENTERED PERSPECTIVE

Please provide a description of how your Application Use Case incorporates key human-centered principles to ensure inclusivity, ethical responsibility, and demonstrated expertise:

- *Describe how gender and diversity perspectives are integrated into your AUC. Focus on the approach you will use to addressing these aspects within the project design and implementation.*
- *Identify any ethical issues relevant to your sub-project and detail your strategies for managing them effectively.*
- *Highlight your team's experience in conducting human-centered projects, emphasizing the methods and methodologies you have successfully used in the past.*

RECOMMENDED 1 PAGE

2. IMPACT

2.1. INDUSTRIAL RELEVANCE & POTENTIAL IMPACT

Describe the industrial relevance of your project, potential impact (improved defect detection and prediction, minimization of production interferences, enhancement of workplace safety conditions, reduction of production time, and early-stage quality control. IP management sales, return on investment and profit), exploitation plan and business view.

Provide insights on how your project will adapt your selected MAGICIAN capabilities to your specific innovative Use Case

- *The potential impact on the industry, on your market, including the improvement of the innovation capacity of your company(ies). Provide specific examples of how the project will facilitate the adoption of MAGICIAN technologies, processes, or methodologies.*
- *Describe the plan for protecting innovations and ensuring that the benefits of the project are accessible while respecting IPR regulations.*
- *Outline how the project contributes to sustainability, workforce safety and responsible manufacturing practices.*
- *Explain how your project will improve defect detection and correction in the early stages of production of the specific sector you are aiming for.*
- *Describe how your solution efficiently manages tasks across multiple robots, minimizing interference and adapting to the production environment.*
- *Describe how your solution reduces the need for human intervention in risky tasks, enhancing safety and working conditions.*

- Explain how the solution contributes to reducing production times and maintaining uniform product quality.
- Explain how your project leverages data analytics and machine learning to enhance defect prediction, enabling proactive measures in quality control before final production stages.

Please be specific and provide only information that applies to the proposal and its objectives. Wherever possible, use quantified indicators and targets.

RECOMMENDED 3 PAGES.

2.2. BUSINESS PLAN ORIENTED DESCRIPTION:

- Provide insights into the target **market attractiveness** of the proposed solution, the market size (e.g., TAM, SAM, SOM), and potential market growth. Describe how the solution meets current market needs and anticipates future trends in the sector.
- Describe the **business model** for the proposed solution (i.e., value propositions, customer segments, revenue streams, etc.).
- Describe the **go-to-market strategy** of the proposed solution, detailing the channels, customer benefits (e.g., cost savings, operational efficiency, productivity increases, etc.), expected market share, and substantiated and quantifiable economic results (i.e., estimated revenue potential, ROI, etc.).

RECOMMENDED 1 PAGES.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1. COMPANY(IES) DESCRIPTION

Single/Twin AUC: applying company(ies)

Provide a brief description of the legal entity (e.g., the type of company, age, size, country, focus domain(s), tech/non-tech, “newcomers” to EU programs or have prior experience), the main tasks and the previous experience relevant to those tasks. Provide also a short profile of the individuals who will be undertaking the work.

Describe the needed expertise from the involved MAGICIAN competences

partners.

Specify the needed support for innovation management from MAGICIAN partners.

RECOMMENDED 1 PAGE to 1.5 PAGES in case of two applying companies AUC proposal.

3.2. COOPERATION AND PARTNERS ROLE

For the Twin AUC please describe who is your AUC partner and the terms agreed for the collaboration.

RECOMMENDED MAX 0.5 PAGE

3.3. WORKPLAN INCLUDING THE PROJECT DURATION

Please provide the following:

- Brief presentation of the overall structure of the work plan and timing of the work plan (6-12 months)*
- List of necessary competencies, MAGICIAN technologies that will be used or that are targeted*
- Please add a GANTT-Chart to visualize the duration of the individual WPs over the duration of the Application Use Case.*
- Detailed work description (use the template provided below; 1 table per WP). Applicants are required to structure their proposals with a maximum of 5 Work Packages, including one dedicated to project management.*
- Provide a comprehensive risk management plan, detailing strategies for mitigating identified risks and ensuring project resilience.*
- Please add a list of deliverables using the provided table.*

RECOMMENDED up to 3,5 PAGES

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Work package number: | | Start Date: | |
| Work package title: | | | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Planned Person-months⁹: | |
|---|--|

| |
|-------------------|
| Objectives |
|-------------------|

| |
|--|
| Description of work (where appropriate, broken down into tasks) |
|--|

| |
|---|
| Deliverables (brief description and month of delivery) |
|---|

Table 1: List of Deliverables

| Deliverable (number) | Deliverable name | Work package number | Participant Name | Type ¹⁰ | Dissemination level | Delivery date |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

⁹ In case of more than one participating company, please assign values for all involved participants here.

¹⁰ Use one of the following codes:

R: Document, report

DEM: Demonstrator, prototype

DEC: Patents filing, press & media actions, videos, etc.

OTHER: Software, etc.

3.4. JUSTIFICATION OF PLANNED COSTS AND RESOURCES

Please provide a summary of required efforts per WP using the table below.

RECOMMENDED 0.5 PAGE

| Participant Name | WP Number | Estimated eligible costs | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| | | Effort (PM) | Personnel Costs (€) | Other Direct Costs (€) | Indirect Costs (€) | Total Costs (€) | Requested Funding (€) |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Total | | | | | | |

In column 'Effort', insert the required person months for the work involved.¹¹

In column 'Personnel Costs', insert your personnel costs for the work involved. **ATTENTION:** The personnel costs are to be consumed by the workforce in the country where the Third Party that has been granted the fund is registered (a transfer of funds to affiliated or associated organisations is not allowed and would fall within the subcontracting rules).

In column 'Other Direct costs', insert any other direct costs, for example, material or travel costs (technical meetings, dissemination activities, etc.)

In column 'Indirect costs', insert your indirect (overhead) costs, (...%) of all your direct costs.

In column 'Total costs', calculate the sum of all your indicated costs.

In column 'Requested Funding', insert your requested EC contribution.

¹¹ You may refer to the Guide of Applicants for further information on these different categories of costs.

You may **request up to 70% of the total costs, and up to 100% in case you are a start-up***.

Up to 15% of the cascade funding may be used for specific subcontracting tasks that neither the MAGICIAN partners nor the Third party can carry out. Please provide sufficient justification on what and why you need to subcontract some of your tasks.

*The maximum funding per Application Use Case is **200 k€** at a funding rate of **70%** of the budget, reaching 100% in case of start-ups as selected beneficiary.*

Please consider that all budgeted costs must comply with the applicable national law on taxes, labor and social security and must be in compliance with the rules and conditions laid out in Council and Parliament decisions relevant to the Horizon Europe framework program, in particular - but not exclusively - "REGULATION (EU) No 1290/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013"

Provisions for possible future losses or charges, exchange losses, costs related to return on capital, costs reimbursed in respect of another Union action or program, debt and debt service charges and excessive or reckless expenditure are ineligible costs and cannot be included into the budget.

4. ETHICAL ISSUES

MAGICIAN complies with the European policies regarding data protection and privacy and respects fundamental ethical issues particularly those outlined in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity¹² and Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI¹³.

All data that is brought into an Application Use Case or that is processed in an AUC must be GDPR compliant and therefore completely anonymized beforehand.

Please answer the following questions.

Does your proposed work involve:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Human embryos and fetuses | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Humans | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Human cells/tissues | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Personal data | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |

¹² [european-code-of-conduct-for-research-integrity_horizon_en.pdf](#)

¹³ [Ethics Guidelines for AI \(europa.eu\)](#)

-
- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 5. Animals | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Third countries | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Environment & Health and Safety | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Dual use | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Misuse | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Other ethics issues | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/> |

If the answer is 'YES' to any of the questions, please contact MAGICIAN project at OpenCall@magician-project.eu or one MAGICIAN partner, for guidance on the issue.

For more information on ethical issues, please consult the documentation provided by the European Commission: [how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf](#)