

25 years of ITEA
webinar – Spain

SII GROUP SPAIN

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ITEA is the Eureka Cluster on software innovation





SII Group Spain

- *Brief introduction about company*
 - SII Group Spain SL is a large company specialising in information and communication technology services and engineering for business management.
 - SII Group Spain is part of the multinational SII Group, which is a leader in technology engineering solutions. The group is listed on the Paris Stock Exchange and employs more than 7,200 consultants with a presence in 18 countries, 50 technical centers, 39 years of experience and 438M€ of revenue.
- Active in ITEA since 2013
 - Involved in 4 projects
 - OXILATE (<https://itea4.org/project/OXILATE.html>)
 - IVVES (<https://itea4.org/project/ivves.html>)

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Some examples of successful ITEA projects



IVVES project (Oct 2019 – Dec 2022)

- Coordinated by Mark van Helvoort (Philips Medical Systems Nederland B.V.)
- SII Group Spain Country Leader.
- **Evolving Systems are Complex AI systems that can self-adapt and learn fast.** They are growing significantly in automation, computation and novel digital services.
- IVVES has developed Artificial Intelligence **approaches for robust and comprehensive, industrial-grade Verification and Validation techniques.**
- **SII Group Spain has focused on XAI (Explainable AI) for Fintech Sector.**

Is a model making reliable predictions?

How can an expert understand the results?



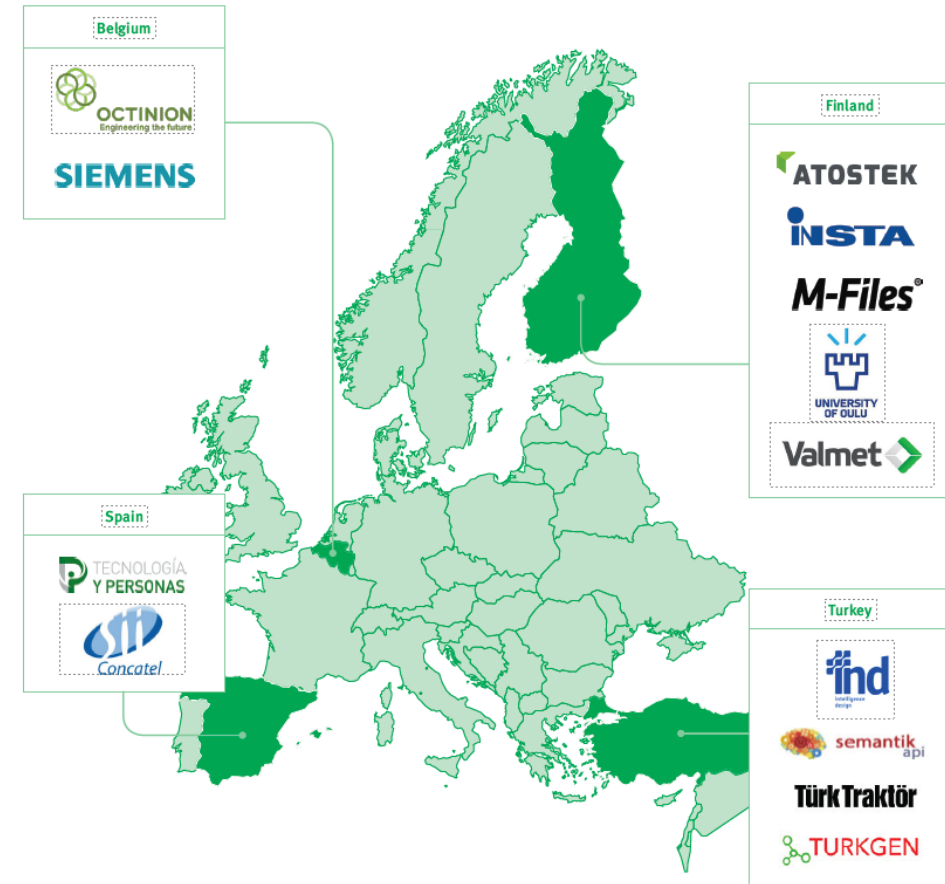
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Some examples of successful ITEA projects



OXILATE project (Mar 2020 – Feb 2023)

- First project coordinated by SII Group Spain.
- OXILATE has successfully developed an artificial intelligence-powered **digital business expert that provides support for systems fully integrated into the customer's operational workflow.** This was achieved through the development and integration of “actionable” data analytics with expert knowledge of already available support tools for professionals, resulting in direct business value in the product life-cycle.





Some examples of successful ITEA projects

Societal impact

- Better **Verification and Validation Techniques for AI-powered Evolving Systems** aim to generate confidence and security, addressing key challenges:
 - **Black Box:** Adaptive manufacturing relies on new, complex AI components that must be secure and reliable. **The lack of techniques for V&V of ML applications prevents rapid adoption, especially if the hidden layers are working as a “black box”.**
 - Another challenge is that the optimal configuration of ML workflow will vary over time, possibly on an hourly or daily basis. **The result is that models are outdated very fast,** as the training data differs from the real data inputs available in the operational environment.
 - **Personal Data:** AI developments (finance, health...) rely on quality of available data originating from the current human-controlled processes. **A critical step is combining information systems which qualify often non-structured data in a GDPR and MDR (medical) compliant manner.**



Business impact

In IVVES, Enhanced V&V techniques, and specially XAI, are helping SII Group Spain to make end-users (non-technical) understand how and why a prediction is made.

- In IVVES, SII Group Spain, together with NETCHECK developed an **ESG Investment Tool - a web tool** capable of testing and validating ML models, evaluating the quality of the data, and providing insights about financial assets. Through NLP techniques, SII Group Spain can now extract information from news and blogs, **and finally, classify the information to automatically calculate an ESG score.**
- Thanks to the ESG Investment Tool, **a company can save a lot of time spent on the process of collecting, analysing news and structuring data.** In addition, the model provides ‘opinions’ about the news analysed, including source reputation, level of veracity, sentiment and the topic or issue that a news item deals with. In addition, it also explains the process it has followed to come to such conclusions.
- **OXILATE** is helping SII Group Spain to generate a **Collective Intelligence**. Gathering corporate information, structuring information in a knowledge graph and having **GPT as an interface to interact with Insurance Agents.**



Unique aspects/benefits of the ITEA Programme

- Unique **opportunity** to work with top level companies and researchers. Analyzing the state of the art, a lot of the papers we found were signed by researchers from the consortium.
- The **possibility of doing business** by understanding if what another company in another country is doing is real. In a simple way, ties are forged that can lead to the joint exploitation of results.
- These projects help **evaluate** how the same technologies are approached differently by each company/domain.



Advice for participants SME

Take advantage of interaction with other companies and researchers.

- You work with the best in Europe. You can compare yourself and enrich your I+D goals.

Be proactive in seeking business-focused collaborations.

- Naturally, bonds are strengthened that can open doors in other markets.

Financially, it is a very good tool. CDTI funding is perfect for maintaining a consistent I+D activity.

- An I+D strategic plan should have security. CDTI is clear, accessible (they are always available for communication), and very reliable. The success rate is high, and international collaboration increases the intensity of the support.



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