

The IFAC Industry Committee invites you to a virtual discussion panel in its proposed IFAC INDUSTRY CONNECT series:

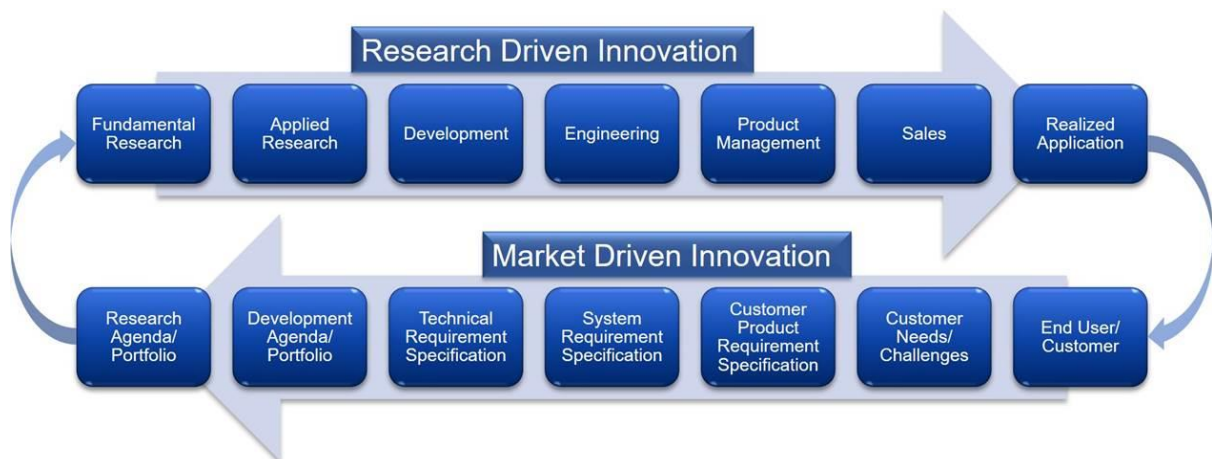
**“The Impact of Control Research on Industrial Innovation: What would it take to make it happen?”**

**Panelists:** Hans Aalto, Finn Ankersen, Alex van Delft, Silvia Mastellone and Iven Mareels.

**Moderator:** Moncef Chioua

**The webinar will be held on June 15, 2021 at 12:00 UTC (14:00 CEST, 08:00 EDT).**

We will take a close look at a framework to close the gap between fundamental control research and practice towards catalyzing technology innovation.



Key elements of this framework are: systems and process thinking, vision driven innovation, systematic identification of customer requirements, addressing profitability and implementation aspects. The discussion will address key drivers for innovation, limitations encountered in practice and include suggestions on potential research directions based on requirements collected from different industry sectors. Activating the flow in the innovation cycle is key for automatic control as a pivotal discipline to address societal and technological challenges of our future. This requires not only novel tools, theories, and trained people but also innovative ways of working together. This subject was recently addressed in a paper in “Control Engineering Practice” (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conengprac.2021.104737>).

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IFAC INDUSTRY CONNECT webinar series is a proposed program of virtual panel discussion events to be held throughout the year. These events will be free for all registrants, have no academic style publication requirements and are designed to match interests of engineers and managers in industry.

The plan is for each IFAC INDUSTRY CONNECT event to be a one-hour virtual panel with a few participants discussing a topic proposed by the control community and selected by an advisory group. They will be recorded and the recordings and related information will be available on IFAC’s social media sites including the IFAC YouTube channel. The formal proposal for the series will be considered at the IFAC Council meeting in July 2021.

**Registration Link:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8-3jcXuHRtqY5umDbO5WhA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8-3jcXuHRtqY5umDbO5WhA)

## Panelists:



Dr. Hans Aalto has been with Neste Engineering Solutions for 35 years working on process control and real-time optimization including the development of the NAPCON model-predictive control and optimization package. He has a large experience in petroleum refining, renewable fuels refining, petrochemicals, natural gas pipelines and power industry. He is a member of the IFAC TC 5.4 and the IFAC Industrial Committee.



Dr. Finn Ankersen is a Senior Control Systems Analyst with the European Space Agency (ESA). He is ESA's lead expert for Guidance, Navigation, and Control (GNC) for formation flying and rendezvous and docking missions. He has made significant contributions to the Shuttle, International Space Station, Hermes, Darwin, ATV and Swedish Prisma missions, among others. He is a member of the IFAC Industry Committee and of the IFAC TC on Aerospace and senior member of IEEE.



Dr. Silvia Mastellone is a professor for Systems and Control at the University of Applied Science Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW). She worked as Principal Scientist at ABB Corporate Research Center in Switzerland. She

is a member of the IFAC Industry Executive Committee and a member of the advisory board for the multiutility IBB.



Dr. Ir. Alex van Delft is currently working as Independent Consultant. Until 2020 he was the Corporate Manager Process Control for Royal DSM in The Netherlands. He is a member of the IFAC Industry Committee.



Prof Iven Mareels is the Director of the Centre for Applied Research, and a Partner in Global Business Services, in IBM Australia/New Zealand. His team works on the foundations of AI and Data Science, and applies these in areas such as engineering compliance and helping our economy to decarbonise.

## Moderator:



Dr. Moncef Chioua is an Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering at Polytechnique Montréal. He was a member of the process data analysis and optimization research group at ABB Corporate Research Center in Germany between 2008 and 2020 and of the process control research group at PAPRICAN, (now FP-Innovations) from 2003 to 2004. He is a member of the IFAC Industry Committee.