



Nuscience wins the “Factory of the Future Award 2017”

Dear colleagues,

Yesterday, February 2nd 2017 the leading lights of Belgian industry gathered for the third edition of the Factory of the Future Awards in Brussels.

During this event Nuscience received **the Award “Factory of the future 4.0”** for its “State of the art factory” in Drongen.

Nuscience is the very first company within the animal sector to win this award.

The expert jury were impressed by our vision of growth, competitiveness & sustainability. They embraced the in-house project realization of the new factory, making the difference in our sector through the digitalization of the factory right from the work floor.



What is “The Factory of the Future” Award?

The factory of the future is an initiative of “Made Different” a Belgian government organization, which puts forward-looking manufacturers who systematically take up the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution - the digitalization - into the spotlight

Factories of the Future 4.0 are forward-looking manufacturers who systematically take up the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution. They supply products with high value added and are flexible enough to respond to swiftly changing market demand. This also enables them to continue playing a major role in a dynamic worldwide manufacturing network.



Being open-minded about new business models, Factories of the Future fully embrace digitized production processes, by carefully handling energy and materials and exploiting the potential of modern production technologies. Besides technological innovation, social innovation is also high on their agendas, with special attention paid to staff involvement, creativity and autonomy in a human-oriented approach.

The intensive selection procedures

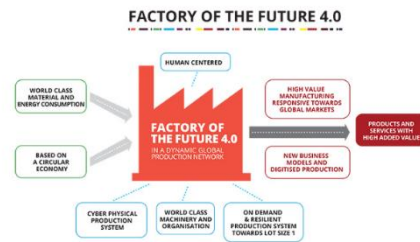
Nuscience started as one of the 16 candidates and was nominated with 7 other finalists to participate to the full audit process.

The audit, executed by experts of Agoria and Sirris, external business and university, and two former winners of the Award evaluated 7 transformations namely:

- Transformation 1: World Class Manufacturing Technologies
- Transformation 2: End-to-end Engineering
- Transformation 3: Digital Factory
- Transformation 4: Human Centered Production
- Transformation 5: Production Network
- Transformation 6: Eco Production
- Transformation 7: Smart Production Systems

What is Factory of the Future 4.0?

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A year after the opening, October 2016, the Drogen plant was intensively audited by a team of Belgian experts with the objective to obtain the prestigious award of “Factory of the Future 4.0”.

Nuscience needed to fill out very detailed questionnaires and to present presentations to the auditors and to undergo a severe on the spot audit of the entire factory.

Each of the transformation processes was screened with a potential score from 1 to 5. To be elected for the award you needed to score at least 4 points or reach level 4 for each transformation. We obtained 4 out 5 on each transformation.

Other laureates of the Award 2017 are:

1. Veranneman Technical Textiles (member of Group Sioen) (industry)
2. Daikin (technology)
3. Valeo (technology)
4. Rousselot (food)

Marketing of the Prestigious Award

We are very proud to receive this Award and we want to thank everybody who contributed, in any way, to this exceptional achievement!

My special thanks goes to the project team that worked hard since 2012 to design and achieve a state of the art plant. Surrounded by good external partners and the operational team they managed to bring the performance at the expected level so we will meet at the end of 2017 the target agreed with Agrifirm.

The Award is valid for three years, but it is not an end point but a starting point to grow further to reach 5 out 5 in all transformations.

It is our ambition to actively promote this recognition to the customers and in the job market. We will send around an email banner and visualize the award in our paper and digital communication.

Nuscience hopes to inspire other Belgian companies to take steps to become a Factory of the Future and will open its doors for guided tours.

Chris Mercier

COO Nuscience Group

