Z - B R E 4 K

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Strategies and Predictive Maintenance models wrapped around physical systems for Zero-unexpected-Breakdowns and increased operating life of Factories

Z-BRE4K

2nd Year Press Release

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Z-BRE4K solutions ready to be tested at the industrial level

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Z-BRE4K, the EC-funded project that aims at reaching zero downtimes caused by unexpected breakdowns in manufacturing plants, just entered Year 3 seeing the testing of Z-BRE4K framework solutions at use cases' facilities.

On September 18-19th Z-BRE4K partners met in Thessaloniki, Greece, for the 5th plenary meeting of the project. The event was the opportunity to assess results collected in year 2 and to usher in year 3 activities, dealing mainly with the finalisation of Z-BRE4K solutions and their demonstration at the shop floor level.

Year 2 has been challenging for project partners as machine-learning related activities have been intensively performed with continuous data stream, while the different components of the Z-BRE4K platform are being tested and progressively integrated, bringing together condition monitoring, metrology and quality information that is interpreted by predictive modelling modules that detect anomaly, prescribe developing failures and estimating Remaining Useful Life (RUL) of components, modules and machinery. This information is to be integrated with higher level management systems such as MES or CMMS in order to provide strategic services and notifications both to shopfloor and management personnel at the three demonstration sites (SACMI-CDS, PHILIPS and GESTAMP) during year 3 and 4.

The starting year 3 will be key for market assessment activities, indeed project partners are validating the strategies and methodologies for the launch of Z-BRE4K solutions into the market. To this extent, the consortium is actively working in the assessment of predictive maintenance needs of companies and a market analysis to produce effective customer adoption plans and reassess the business model of the project. Besides, Z-BRE4K is analysing the key activities and resources to provide the expected solutions and to obtain the cost structure of these modular solutions.

Equally, the meeting in Thessaloniki offered the opportunity to further discuss about the standardisation and dissemination activities relevant to the project's launch in the predictive maintenance market. To this end, Z-BRE4K is working closely with the other 5 projects of the ForeSee cluster - funded within the FoF-09-2017 call - for creating a roadmap for predictive maintenance, which will act as a guideline for companies that want to stay competitive in Industry 4.0.