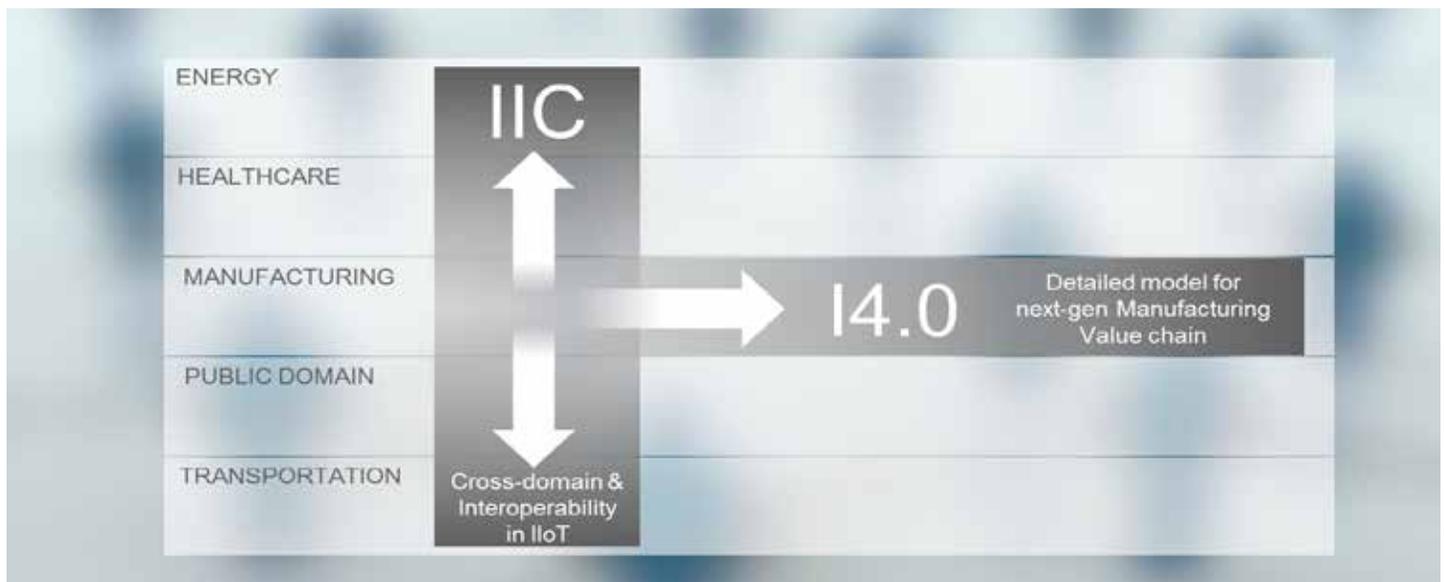# Industrial Internet Consortium and Plattform Industrie 4.0
Collaboration for Interoperability

The Industrial Internet is important. New technologies and new business opportunities will disrupt industries on many levels. Two organizations have dominated the headlines in this space: the Plattform Industrie 4.0, with its strong roots in the manufacturing industry, and the Industrial Internet Consortium, with its more cross-domain oriented approach.

Representatives of Plattform Industrie 4.0 and the Industrial Internet Consortium met to explore the potential alignment of their two architecture efforts — respectively, the Reference Architecture Model for Industrie 4.0 (RAMI4.0) and the Industrial Internet Reference Architecture (IIRA).

The meeting was a success, with a common recognition of the complementary nature of the two models, an initial draft mapping showing the direct relationships between elements of the models and a clear roadmap to ensure future interoperability. The three key outcomes of our collaboration thus far are:

1. DOMAIN FOCUS AREAS ARE COMPLEMENTARY

With RAMI 4.0, the focus is on manufacturing in depth; IIRA crosses multiple application domains. Industry as a whole must work across domains; manufactured goods are one of those domains.

We realized a merger of the two architectures was both impractical and undesirable. Each domain in the Industrial Internet has its own special needs. We now have an ongoing relationship and plan in place to gain a much deeper common understanding that will benefit all domains.

2. A CLEAR MAPPING BETWEEN BOTH ARCHITECTURES WILL ENABLE CROSS-DOMAIN INTEROPERABILITY

Interoperability means that we must influence global standards. It would be inefficient for both organizations to drive the same needs into the same standardization organizations. And it would be self-defeating if we were to drive different requirements into those organizations. Conclusions made:

- Formulate requirements for standardization bodies together
- Maintain a technical exchange to identify mappings, differences and enhancements on both sides
- Work together for the benefit of interoperability of systems from the different domains

RAMI 4.0 ← **Interoperability** → **IIRA**

3. COLLABORATION ON TESTBEDS / TEST FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

We have also agreed to extend our cooperation to collaborate in the areas of Industrial Internet Consortium Testbeds, I4.0 Test Facilities and Infrastructure that will ensure interoperability on the technical level.

About Plattform Industrie 4.0

Plattform Industrie 4.0 is a German agency comprised of government, business and trade union officials which promotes the computerization of manufacturing and supports its implementation in Germany, thus maintaining the country's position as a leading production location. Plattform Industrie 4.0 has recently been expanded to focus on systems security, work and education training, and legal issues.

About the Industrial Internet Consortium

The Industrial Internet Consortium is the global not-for-profit public-private partnership of 250+ member organizations, joining together to accelerate the Industrial Internet. Our membership includes the world's most innovative companies, bringing together corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers and governments into one community to advance innovation, share best practices and solve the tough challenges ahead in interoperability, security and innovation.

The Consortium brings together corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers and governments into one community to advance innovation and share best practices. For more information, visit www.iiconsortium.org.

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