

**CALL FOR
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)**

PRODUCT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CASTINGS

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Enquiries	General Enquiries Innocent Monareng Email: imonareng@csir.co.za Telephone: +27 12 841 2310	Technical Enquiries Innocent Monareng Email: imonareng@csir.co.za Telephone: +27 12 841 2310
CSIR Business Hours	08:00 – 16:30	

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Abbreviations

ACT	Advanced Casting Technologies
B-BBEE	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment
CAD	Computer-Aided Design
CIPC	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission
CSD	Central Supplier Database
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
Eol	Expression of Interest
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
SMME	Small, medium and micro enterprises

1 Introduction

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is one of the leading scientific and technology research organisations in Africa. In collaboration with local and international industry, academia and research institutions, the CSIR conducts directed multidisciplinary research, technology development and innovation aimed at strengthening South Africa's industrial competitiveness, economic growth and socioeconomic development. The CSIR's main campus is located in Pretoria, with regional operations and partnerships across various provinces in South Africa.

The CSIR Future Production: Manufacturing cluster is focused on advancing manufacturing innovation, industrial capability development and technology localisation through applied research, advanced engineering, digital manufacturing, and industrial partnerships. Within this cluster, the Advanced Casting Technologies research group supports the development and industrialisation of advanced casting solutions through research, design optimisation, process development and manufacturing innovation.

The Advanced Casting Technologies research group works closely with industry stakeholders, foundries, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), engineering firms and manufacturing organisations to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of the South African casting and manufacturing sectors. The research group's activities support national priorities related to industrialisation, localisation, supplier development, advanced manufacturing capability, skills development and technology innovation.

South Africa's casting and foundry industry remains a strategic enabler for sectors such as mining, rail, energy, defence, automotive, infrastructure, agriculture, marine and general engineering. However, the sector continues to face challenges related to ageing infrastructure, limited product development capability, insufficient integration between design and manufacturing, increasing import competition, and inadequate adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies. At the same time, opportunities exist to strengthen local capability through improved product design, casting simulation, materials engineering, tooling development and digital manufacturing integration.

In response to these challenges and opportunities, the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group is establishing a collaborative platform aimed at supporting the design, development, validation and industrialisation of cast products and components. This initiative seeks to strengthen collaboration across the manufacturing value chain by integrating product designers, foundries, machining companies, OEMs, research institutions and component manufacturers into coordinated product development programmes.

The initiative is intended to support the development of innovative and commercially viable cast products through:

- Product and process design optimisation;
- Casting simulation and engineering analysis;
- Prototype and pilot production;
- Materials and metallurgical development;
- Manufacturing process improvement;
- Technology localisation and industrialisation; and
- Supply chain development and market integration.

The programme further seeks to promote the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies and digital engineering tools within the local foundry sector, thereby improving productivity, quality, competitiveness and export readiness.

2 Call for applications

The CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group hereby invites eligible organisations, foundries, engineering companies, technology providers, and manufacturing enterprises to submit Expressions of Interest (Eols) to participate in collaborative product design and development initiatives for castings and related manufactured components.

The purpose of this document is to outline the framework, eligibility requirements, evaluation criteria and submission procedures for identifying organisations with capabilities and interest in participating in advanced casting product development programmes.

Potential participants may include:

- Ferrous and non-ferrous foundries;
- Product design and engineering companies;
- OEMs and system integrators;
- Pattern and tooling manufacturers;
- Machining and finishing companies;
- Materials and metallurgical specialists;
- Manufacturing technology providers;
- Research and development organisations; and
- Small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) operating within the metal casting value chain.

Participating organisations should currently possess, or demonstrate the potential to develop, capabilities in product design, casting development, manufacturing engineering, prototyping, industrialisation or supply chain integration. Preference may be given to organisations that demonstrate strong alignment with industrial development objectives, localisation initiatives, innovation capability and supplier development within the South African manufacturing sector.

This document serves as a guideline to prospective participants interested in submitting Eol applications for consideration by the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group evaluation committee.

3 Overview of the Expression of Interest

The EoI is focused on identifying capable organisations, foundries, engineering companies and manufacturing stakeholders that can participate in collaborative product design and development programmes for castings and related manufactured components. The initiative aims to strengthen South Africa's advanced manufacturing and foundry sectors through technology development, industrial collaboration, innovation, and supply chain integration.

The CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group invites eligible organisations to apply for participation in programmes that support the development, optimisation, validation and industrialisation of cast products and manufacturing technologies. Successful participants may receive access to technical collaboration opportunities, engineering support, research and development partnerships, and participation in strategic industrial projects aimed at improving local manufacturing competitiveness and localisation capability.

The programme seeks to support industry through interventions that include:

- Product design and engineering development;
- Casting simulation and process optimisation;
- Prototype development and validation;
- Tooling and pattern development;
- Materials and metallurgical engineering support;
- Manufacturing process improvement;
- Technology localisation and industrialisation;
- Supplier and value chain development; and
- Advanced manufacturing technology integration

The EoI further aims to identify organisations capable of contributing to collaborative manufacturing ecosystems involving OEMs, foundries, machining companies, technology providers and research institutions. The intention is to facilitate stronger integration between product design, casting development, manufacturing engineering and commercial production readiness.

3.1 Key application information

- **Opening date:** Click or tap to enter a date.
- **Closing date:** 18 Sept 2026 at 16:30
- **Evaluation process:** Applications may be evaluated on a rolling or phased basis
- **Submission method:** Electronic submissions via email
- **Submission email address:** Innocent Monareng at imonareng@csir.co.za or +27 12 841 2310
- **Technical enquiries:** Innocent Monareng at imonareng@csir.co.za or +27 12 841 2310

3.2 Scope of participation

Participating organisations may contribute in one or more of the following areas:

- Product and component design;
- Computer-Aided Design modelling and engineering analysis;
- Casting simulation and optimisation;
- Pattern and tooling manufacture;
- Ferrous and non-ferrous casting production;
- Heat treatment and metallurgical processing;
- Machining and finishing operations;
- Non-destructive testing and quality assurance;
- Prototype development and pilot production;
- Industrialisation and scale-up activities; and
- Supply chain integration and localisation support.

3.3 Potential participants

Potential participants may include, but are not limited to:

- Ferrous and non-ferrous foundries;
- Product design and engineering companies;
- OEMs and system integrators;
- Pattern and tooling manufacturers;
- Machining and finishing companies;
- Materials and metallurgical specialists;
- Manufacturing technology providers;
- Research and development organisations;
- Universities and innovation centres; and
- SMMEs operating within the manufacturing value chain

3.4 Eligibility criteria

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Relevant technical capability within manufacturing, casting, or engineering sectors;
- Access to appropriate facilities, equipment and technical expertise;
- Experience in product development, manufacturing, or industrial engineering;
- Commitment to collaborative technology development and industrial participation; and
- Compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

Preference may be given to organisations that:

- Support localisation and supplier development;
- Demonstrate innovation capability;
- Operate within strategic industrial sectors;
- Support SMME and skills development initiatives; and
- Have existing or potential integration into local and global supply chains

3.5 Evaluation process

Applications will be evaluated by the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group evaluation committee based on:

- Qualification and compliance requirements;
- Technical capability and manufacturing readiness;
- Product design and development capability;
- Innovation and industrialisation potential;
- Contribution to localisation and supplier development; and
- Alignment with strategic manufacturing objectives.

Detailed evaluation criteria and scoring matrices are provided in Section 4.

3.6 General terms

- Only electronic submissions will be accepted.
- Incomplete applications may not be considered.
- The CSIR reserves the right to amend, suspend, or withdraw this EoI at any stage.
- Submission of an application does not guarantee participation or project support.
- All information submitted will be treated confidentially, subject to applicable laws and CSIR policies.
- Applicants will be responsible for all costs incurred in preparing and submitting their applications.

3.7 Next steps

Interested organisations are encouraged to review the full terms of reference and submission requirements before submitting their applications. Shortlisted applicants may be contacted for additional information, technical discussions, presentations or site assessments as part of the evaluation process.

All enquiries related to this EoI should be directed to:

Innocent Monareng

CSIR Future Production: Manufacturing

Advanced Casting Technologies

imonareng@csir.co.za

+27 12 841 2310

4 Expression of Interest terms of reference

This call is aimed at organisations operating within the advanced manufacturing, foundry, casting, product development and engineering sectors that are interested in participating in collaborative product design and development initiatives for castings and related manufactured components. The programme seeks to support technology development, localisation, industrialisation, supplier development and manufacturing competitiveness within the South African manufacturing sector.

The CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group seeks to identify capable organisations that can contribute to or participate in product development activities involving design engineering, casting development, simulation, prototyping, tooling, testing, manufacturing optimisation and industrialisation.

4.1 Definitions

4.1.1 SMME

A manufacturing SMME is defined in accordance with the Revised Schedule 1 of the National Definition of Small Enterprise in South Africa published by the Department of Small Business Development.

For the purposes of this EoI, a manufacturing SMME is generally defined as an organisation with:

- Fewer than 250 full-time employees; and
- Annual turnover below the applicable threshold for manufacturing enterprises.

SMMEs may include foundries, machining companies, tooling manufacturers, product design firms, engineering consultancies, manufacturing service providers and component manufacturers operating within the manufacturing value chain.

Companies that do not meet the definition for SMMEs will be classified as non-SMMEs for purposes of this EoI.

4.1.2 Advanced manufacturing

Advanced manufacturing refers to the application of innovative technologies, engineering methods, digital tools, and integrated production systems to improve the design, development, manufacture, assembly, or industrialisation of products and components.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Product and process design;
- Casting simulation and modelling;
- Additive and digital manufacturing technologies;
- Tooling and prototype development;
- Metallurgical engineering;
- Process optimisation;
- Automated and intelligent manufacturing systems; and
- Industrialisation and localisation activities.

Only organisations involved in advanced manufacturing, engineering, product development or related industrial activities will be considered for participation.

4.1.3 Foundry and casting development

For purposes of this EoI, casting development refers to activities associated with the design, engineering, manufacture, optimisation, testing, and industrialisation of ferrous and non-ferrous cast products and components.

This includes:

- Sand casting;
- Investment casting;
- Die casting;
- Continuous casting;
- Precision casting;
- Prototype casting;
- Tooling and pattern development; and
- Heat treatment and finishing processes.

4.2 Participation and support criteria

Organisations participating in this initiative may be considered for technical collaboration, research support, product development partnerships, prototype development, manufacturing optimisation and industrialisation activities depending on project scope, capability and strategic relevance.

NOTES:

1. Participation may be limited to organisations operating within manufacturing, engineering, foundry or related industrial sectors.
2. Applicants are required to submit:
 - Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) documentation or CSD report;
 - Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) certificate or affidavit (where applicable);
 - Proof of compliant tax status; and
 - Company profile and capability statement.
3. Preference may be given to organisations:
 - Supporting localisation and supplier development;
 - Demonstrating innovation capability;
 - Supporting SMME development; and
 - Operating within strategic manufacturing sectors.
4. Organisations currently receiving support for substantially similar projects from other government programmes may be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to avoid duplication of funding or support.
5. Certain projects may require co-funding or in-kind contribution depending on the project scope, budget, and complexity.
6. Participation in the programme does not guarantee funding, project allocation or commercial contracts.

4.3 Procurement of services

Where external specialist services, equipment, testing, certification or manufacturing support are required, procurement will be conducted in accordance with applicable CSIR procurement policies and relevant legislative requirements, including compliance with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA).

The CSIR reserves the right to appoint service providers, technical specialists or subcontractors as required for project execution.

4.4 Validity of EoI application

Once approved, an EoI application may remain valid for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the date of approval, unless otherwise communicated by the CSIR.

The CSIR reserves the right to request updated information from applicants during this validity period.

4.5 Submission guidelines

Only electronic submissions will be accepted for this Expression of Interest (EoI). Applicants are required to submit all completed application documents and supporting information electronically to [Insert Submission Email Address] no later than the stipulated closing date and time. Applications received after the closing date and time may not be considered for evaluation.

All technical enquiries and requests for clarification relating to this EoI must be directed to [Insert Contact Person], CSIR Future Production: Manufacturing Cluster, Advanced Casting Technologies Research Group, via [Insert Email Address]. Applicants must ensure that all correspondence and submissions clearly indicate the following subject line: "EoI: Product Design and Development of Castings".

4.6 Elimination criteria

Applications may be disqualified under the following conditions:

- Incomplete submissions;
- Unsigned application documents;
- Failure to submit required supporting documentation;
- Failure to meet minimum qualification requirements;
- Submission after the closing date and time;
- False or misleading information provided in the application; and

- Failure to comply with submission requirements.

4.7 Evaluation process and criteria

4.7.1 Evaluation of submissions

All Eol applications will be evaluated by a technical review committee appointed by the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group.

Evaluations will be based on:

- Information provided in the submitted Eol documentation;
- Technical capability;
- Manufacturing readiness;
- Product development capability;
- Strategic alignment;
- Innovation potential; and
- Industrialisation potential.

The evaluation process may include:

- Desktop technical evaluations;
- Interviews or presentations;
- Site visits or facility assessments; and
- Requests for additional information.

4.7.2 Qualification and critical evaluation factors

The assessment criteria for the evaluation of all applications will be divided into qualification evaluation factors and critical evaluation factors. Qualification evaluation factors relate to the legal and compliance status of the applicant organisation, while critical evaluation factors assess the organisation's technical capability, manufacturing readiness, and alignment with the objectives of the Product Design and Development of Castings Programme.

For the qualification evaluation factors (Table 1), an application may be disqualified if the applicant is not a South African registered entity or fails to provide the required statutory and compliance documentation. Applications from organisations with non-compliant B-BBEE status may, where applicable, be evaluated separately in consideration of the strategic value of the proposed participation, localisation potential, technology contribution and expected benefit to the South African manufacturing and foundry sectors.

Table 1: Qualification factors

Qualification evaluation factors	Yes	No
South African registered company		
Is the company an SMME? (as defined in Section 4.1.1)		
Compliant tax status		
Valid B-BBEE certificate or affidavit		
CIPC documentation showing company directors and registration details/CSD report		
Submission of company profile and capability statement		

For the critical evaluation factors (Table 2), any "NO" response to a mandatory technical or operational requirement may result in immediate disqualification. The critical evaluation will be conducted by the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group review committee based on the information provided in the application and supporting documentation.

Table 2: Critical evaluation factors

Critical evaluation factors	Yes	No
Is the company operating within one or more applicable manufacturing or foundry-related thematic areas?		
Does the organisation provide engineering, manufacturing, or technical services supporting the advanced manufacturing sector?		
Does the organisation participate in the design, manufacture, integration, assembly or supply of products, components, systems or industrial services locally or internationally?		

Does the organisation have access to manufacturing, foundry, design, testing or engineering facilities? (owned, leased, or subcontracted)		
Does the organisation demonstrate capability in product design, casting development, manufacturing engineering, or industrialisation activities?		
If a non-SMME, does the organisation support or develop SMMEs within its supplier or manufacturing value chain?		

4.7.3 Differentiation evaluation factors

The differentiation evaluation factors for assessing all applications are shown in Table 3 below. These factors are intended to evaluate the applicant's technical capability, manufacturing maturity, product development experience, industrialisation readiness, innovation capability and contribution to localisation and supplier development within the South African manufacturing and foundry sectors.

Each differentiation factor will be assigned a score out of a maximum of ten (10), which will then be weighted according to the relative importance of the factor to the objectives of the programme. The final weighted score will be used to rank applications during the evaluation process.

Please note the following:

- A minimum total weighted score of sixty-five (65) must be achieved for an application to be considered for participation.
- Applications that do not achieve the minimum qualifying score may be disqualified.
- The weighting applicable to non-SMMEs and SMMEs may differ depending on the strategic objectives of the programme.
- Applicants may be requested to provide supporting documentation or evidence for all claims made within the application.

Table 3: Differentiation evaluation factors for assessing applications

Differentiation Factors	Score (/10)	Weight Non-SMME (%)	Weight SMME (%)	Weighted Score
Experience in casting, manufacturing, product development or advanced manufacturing within applicable thematic areas (Provide proof of years of experience) • More than 10 years (assigned score 10) • 3 – 10 years (assigned score 8) • Less than 3 years (assigned score 5)		10	10	
Product design and engineering capability (CAD, simulation, Design for Manufacture, casting optimisation capability) • Advanced capability with proven project experience (assigned score 10) • Moderate capability with limited project experience (assigned score 8) • Basic capability (assigned score 5)		10	10	
Percentage of black ownership in the business (Provide proof through B-BBEE certificate or affidavit) • ≥ 50% Black Ownership (assigned score 10) • 1 – 49% Black Ownership (assigned score 7) • No Black Ownership (assigned score 5)		10	15	
B-BBEE Level Contribution • B-BBEE Level 1–2 (assigned score 10) • B-BBEE Level 3–4 (assigned score 8)		10	10	

• B-BBEE Level 5–8 (assigned score 5) • B-BBEE Non-Compliant (assigned score 0)				
Design, manufacture, integration or supply of products/components for OEMs, integrators, foundries or manufacturing companies • More than 5 OEMs/integrators/products supplied or developed (assigned score 10) • 3–4 OEMs/integrators/products supplied or developed (assigned score 8) • 1–2 OEMs/integrators/products supplied or developed (assigned score 5)		15	20	
Technology readiness and industrialisation capability • TRL 7–9 or commercial production capability (assigned score 10) • TRL 5–6 or pilot-scale capability (assigned score 8) • Early-stage capability below TRL 5 (assigned score 5)		10	10	
Innovation and technology development capability • Demonstrated innovation, R&D, simulation, or advanced process capability (assigned score 10) • Moderate innovation capability (assigned score 8) • Limited innovation capability (assigned score 5)		10	10	
Only applicable to non-SMMEs: Level of support provided to SMMEs within the manufacturing value chain • Support provided to more than 3 SMMEs (assigned score 10) • Support provided to 2–3 SMMEs (assigned score 8) • Support provided to less than 2 SMMEs (assigned score 5)		10	0	
Access to manufacturing, foundry, testing or engineering facilities and equipment • Own facilities and equipment (assigned score 10) • Subcontracted facilities with own equipment (assigned score 8) • Fully subcontracted facilities and equipment (assigned score 5) • No access to facilities or equipment (assigned score 0)		15	15	
Total		100	100	/100

Notes:

- The non-SMME weighting column will only be used if the applicant is classified as a non-SMME.
- The SMME weighting column will only be used if the applicant is classified as an SMME.

4.8 Guidelines and key points

All South African organisations operating within the advanced manufacturing, foundry, casting, engineering, product development and related industrial sectors are invited to submit EoI applications in support of this call. This includes both SMMEs and non-SMMEs involved in product design, casting development, manufacturing engineering, industrialisation, tooling, machining, materials engineering, and supply chain integration activities.

Applicants are requested to note the following:

- Applicants must complete the applicable EoI Application Template and submit all required supporting documentation. This will depend on whether the applying organisation qualifies as an SMME or non-SMME in accordance with the definition provided in Section 4.1.1.
- All submitted documentation, technical data, project information and supporting material will be treated as confidential and handled in accordance with applicable CSIR policies and procedures.

- The evaluation process will be conducted in a fair, transparent and confidential manner by the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group evaluation committee.
- All technical experts, evaluators and reviewers participating in the assessment process will be bound by confidentiality obligations.
- Subject to the nature, complexity and scope of the proposed activities, a project manager, technical lead or designated representative from the CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group may be appointed as the primary technical contact between the CSIR and the successful participant.
- Applicants may be requested to provide additional information, technical presentations, demonstrations or facility access during the evaluation process.
- Participation in this Eol does not guarantee project approval, funding allocation, commercial work or long-term collaboration agreements.
- Preference may be given to organisations demonstrating strong technical capability, innovation potential, localisation contribution, supplier development impact and alignment with South Africa's industrial development objectives.
- Collaborative participation between foundries, OEMs, engineering companies, SMMEs, universities and research institutions is encouraged where such collaboration strengthens product development and industrialisation outcomes.
- The CSIR reserves the right to prioritise projects and participants that align with strategic manufacturing sectors, localisation objectives, and advanced manufacturing technology development priorities.
- The CSIR reserves the right not to engage further with any applicant should the submission not meet programme objectives or technical requirements.
- Failure to comply with Eol requirements may result in disqualification.
- Any attempt to influence the evaluation process improperly may result in immediate disqualification.
- Applicants shall not offer any inducement, reward or consideration to any CSIR employee, representative, or evaluation committee member.
- The CSIR reserves the right to shortlist applicants based on strategic, technical and operational considerations.
- The CSIR reserves the right to cancel or amend this Eol at any stage.
- The terms participant, applicant, organisation, beneficiary and company may be used interchangeably within this document.

4.9 General terms

- The CSIR Advanced Casting Technologies research group reserves the right not to engage further with any applicant should the submitted Eol not meet the objectives, technical requirements or strategic priorities of the programme.
- All technical enquiries relating to this Eol must be submitted electronically to the designated CSIR contact person indicated in this document.
- Failure to comply with the submission requirements, documentation requirements, timelines or evaluation criteria may render the application non-responsive and subject to disqualification.
- Any form of canvassing, lobbying or attempt by an applicant to improperly influence any CSIR employee, representative, technical reviewer, evaluation committee member or associated service provider involved in the Eol process will result in immediate disqualification from the evaluation process.
- Applicants shall not offer, provide or promise any inducement, reward, compensation or consideration of any kind to any employee, representative or agent of the CSIR in connection with this Eol or any related process.
- The CSIR reserves the right to shortlist, prioritise or nominate applicants whose submissions are considered to provide the greatest technical, industrial, strategic, or developmental value to the objectives of the programme.
- The CSIR reserves the right to cancel, amend, suspend, or withdraw this Eol, in whole or in part, or to decline the appointment or participation of any applicant should operational, technical, strategic or business considerations warrant such action.
- Participation in this Eol process does not constitute a guarantee of project support, funding, collaboration agreements, procurement opportunities, or commercial work.
- The CSIR may request additional information, clarification, technical presentations, demonstrations, interviews, or site visits as part of the evaluation process.

- All submitted information may be verified by the CSIR, and applicants may be required to provide supporting evidence for claims made within their submissions.
- The terms participant, applicant, organisation, beneficiary, company, foundry and SMME may be used interchangeably within this document and must be interpreted within the context in which they are used.

4.10 Medium of communication

All documentation, supporting information, correspondence and submissions relating to this EoI must be prepared and submitted in English. The CSIR reserves the right not to consider documentation submitted in any other language unless accompanied by a certified English translation.

4.11 Cost associated with an EoI application

Applicants are expected to fully acquaint themselves with the conditions, requirements, specifications, and obligations associated with this EoI before submitting their applications. Each applicant shall assume full responsibility for all costs, expenses and resource commitments incurred in the preparation and submission of the EoI, including any costs associated with presentations, demonstrations, meetings, travel or technical engagements arising during the evaluation process.

The CSIR shall not be liable, directly or indirectly, for any costs incurred by applicants during participation in the EoI process, irrespective of the outcome of the application.

4.12 Validity and correctness of responses

Applicants confirm that all information, documentation, declarations, and representations submitted as part of the EoI are accurate, complete, valid and truthful to the best of their knowledge.

The applicant further acknowledges that any inaccurate, misleading, incomplete or false information may result in disqualification from the evaluation process or withdrawal from the programme should such information be discovered after appointment or participation.

4.13 Responsibility to execute and failure to comply

Successful applicants shall accept full responsibility for the execution and fulfilment of all obligations, commitments, deliverables and conditions associated with participation in this programme.

The applicant further undertakes to provide the services, technical support, collaboration, manufacturing capability, engineering expertise or project deliverables described in the submitted application in accordance with the terms, conditions, and technical requirements stipulated within this EoI and any subsequent agreements entered into with the CSIR.

Failure to comply with agreed obligations, project requirements, reporting requirements, timelines or technical commitments may result in suspension, termination or removal from the programme.

4.14 Verification of documents

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all submitted documentation is complete, accurate, properly signed where applicable, and free from omissions or duplication.

The CSIR reserves the right to verify any information, claims, certifications, declarations, qualifications, facilities, technical capabilities, or supporting documentation submitted as part of the application process.

No liability shall be accepted by the CSIR for any consequences arising from incomplete, inaccurate, duplicated or omitted documentation submitted by the applicant.

4.15 The CSIR reserves the right to:

- Amend any EoI conditions, specifications, submission requirements, timelines, validity periods or evaluation criteria prior to finalisation of the process.
- Extend the closing date and/or submission deadlines where necessary.
- Verify any information contained within an EoI submission.
- Request additional supporting documentation, clarification, or evidence relating to any aspect of an application.

- Conduct interviews, technical reviews, presentations, demonstrations, audits or site visits as part of the evaluation process.
- Reject any application that does not meet the requirements or objectives of the programme.
- Not appoint or select any applicant.
- Appoint applicants partially, conditionally, or in phases depending on programme requirements and available resources.
- Prioritise applicants and projects that align with strategic industrial development objectives, localisation priorities, and advanced manufacturing initiatives.
- Vary, alter, amend, suspend, withdraw or terminate this EoI process, in whole or in part, at any time prior to finalisation without incurring any liability.
- Cancel or withdraw this EoI without providing reasons and without attracting any liability.
- Request applicants to present their proposals or technical capabilities to the CSIR technical review committee.

5 Disclaimers

The CSIR has prepared this Eol in good faith for the purpose of inviting Expressions of Interest from organisations participating in product design, casting development, advanced manufacturing, and related industrial activities. However, the CSIR, its employees, agents, representatives and associated parties make no representation or warranty, whether express or implied, regarding the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the information contained in this Eol document.

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the CSIR shall not be liable for any claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses or liabilities arising directly or indirectly from reliance on information contained in this Eol, including but not limited to claims arising from errors, omissions, inaccuracies, ambiguities, or misinterpretations of the information provided.

This Eol constitutes a request for Expressions of Interest only and does not constitute an offer, commitment, approval, funding agreement, procurement process or contractual obligation by the CSIR.

Submission of an Eol by an applicant shall not be construed as creating any contractual, partnership, agency, joint venture, employment, or other legal relationship between the applicant and the CSIR.

Participation in this Eol process does not guarantee appointment, selection, project allocation, funding support, collaboration agreements, procurement opportunities or future commercial engagements.

The CSIR reserves the right to amend, suspend, withdraw, terminate, or cancel this Eol process, in whole or in part, at any time and without prior notice or liability.

The CSIR makes no representation, assurance, guarantee, endorsement, or warranty regarding the likelihood of project participation, funding availability, commercial viability or future opportunities arising from this Eol process.

The CSIR shall not be responsible for any costs, expenses, or resource commitments incurred by applicants in preparing, submitting or supporting their Eol applications, including participation in presentations, meetings, demonstrations, technical discussions or evaluation activities.

All information submitted by applicants may be subject to verification, validation and technical assessment by the CSIR.

Applicants acknowledge and accept that the CSIR may prioritise, shortlist or select applicants based on strategic, technical, operational, industrialisation, localisation or programme-specific considerations.

The CSIR shall have no liability towards any applicant or third party in connection with this Eol process or any decision arising from it.