



**Center Connected Industry (CCI) at RWTH Aachen Campus announces cloud data software company NetApp joining its R&D and industry community**

Aachen, February 2021 – The Center Connected Industry (CCI) at RWTH Aachen Campus in Germany, today announced that [NetApp](#) has joined their community of research & development and industry experts. NetApp, a global cloud-led, data centric software company headquartered in Silicon Valley, will deliver significant [data management](#) expertise and innovation to the center's Industry 4.0 projects.

“Together with our industry members, we are building an industrial IoT eco-system to evaluate, test, and integrate new and existing technologies for productive use-,” says center director Christian Maasem. “In such an eco-system, the amount of data we need to process in order to enable new use- and business cases is increasing enormously. Therefore, I am very happy to welcome NetApp into this community, a leading expert on enterprise-grade data management, and am looking forward to jointly create the essential puzzle pieces and solutions for truly connected industry applications with real-life business value.”

The CCI facility provides an environment to its community of industry members, where they can build and demonstrate solutions that add value to industry-relevant use cases. The latest addition, NetApp, is the leading authority for enterprise-grade data services across the hybrid cloud, delivering consistent and seamless data management.

“Industry projects rely on digital processes and solutions to create innovation, and organizations like the CCI are the perfect breeding ground,” explains Reimund Obermair, NetApp Business Development Manager in charge of the new partnership. “With this membership we want to fulfill our aspiration of actively shaping the future of digitized industry. The interdisciplinary cooperation creates optimal conditions to develop and deploy new solutions for customers and partners, basically supporting the full innovation journey – from ideation to prototyping into pilot programs and then into production.”

Center Connected Industry will embed and showcase NetApp's data management capabilities into the digital information ecosystem created by onsite industry members. Crucially, a data management layer, in accordance with the internet of production<sup>1</sup>, will provide relevant data in near-real-time to connected suitable systems, e.g. for use cases and projects such as Future Assembly, Future Logistics, wireless production workflows, and many more. This delivers a

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<sup>1</sup> The Internet of Production defines a layered infrastructure from sensors and actuators through data processing and analytics layers, all the way to business application systems and user interfaces.

The Internet of Production aims to provide contextual data from different domains along the lifecycle of a product (production, development, and usage) in real time.

This enables continuous iterative improvements of production technology and processes, as well as of the product itself.



## CENTER CONNECTED INDUSTRY

new level of data quality at the push of a button by integrating complex applications and workloads into a combined [data fabric](#),<sup>2</sup> making sure that all productive data can be discovered, integrated, automated, optimized, protected, and secured.

### **About the Center Connected Industry on the RWTH Aachen Campus**

The Center Connected Industry in the Smart Logistics cluster provides a platform for industrial companies, research, software and service providers that targets the prototypical evaluation of new and existing IoT technologies for purposeful, technology-supported information provision. New technologies and possibilities of the Internet of Things are to be transferred into productive use through early assessment and testing. Under the guiding principle "Next Level Information Logistics", the center bundles the available expert knowledge in fields relevant for the realization of networked digitization and coordinates the cooperation between the participating industrial users, technology and solution providers as well as relevant research centers of RWTH Aachen University.

More information: <http://connectedindustry.net>

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<sup>2</sup> Data fabric is an architecture and set of data services that provide consistent capabilities across a choice of endpoints spanning on-premises and multiple cloud environments.

Data fabric simplifies and integrates data management across cloud and on premises to accelerate digital transformation. It delivers consistent and integrated hybrid cloud data services for data visibility & insights, data access, control, data protection, and security.