Based near Toulon, the Pôle Mer Méditerranée cluster promotes a wide range of industrial sectors: aerospace, cybersecurity, electronics, energy, ICT, maritime, naval and robotics. These are supported by an equally diverse array of dual use activities in the areas of big data, sensors, machine-human interfaces, simulation, training, telecommunications and the internet-of-things (IoT).

The cluster has a new strategy to spur more cross-fertilisation between defence and security, with special emphasis on technology transfers from the region’s SMEs and research laboratories to these two sectors. It is also working on a new tool – the “system factory project” – to enhance the re-cycling of existing technologies (i.e., those at TRL=9) into other projects.

Pôle Mer Méditerranée’s dual use efforts are linked to France’s smart specialisation strategy, and it has links to other clusters and regional authorities in France. These include ARII (Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur’s regional agency for innovation and internationalisation), the SAFE (Security and Aerospace actors for the Future of Earth) cluster in Aix-en-Provence and OPTITEC, Marseilles’ optics-focused cluster.

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