**WORKSHOP AEROSPACE MEETS HIGH TECH “DATA IN THE CHAIN”, SEPTEMBER 30TH 2021**

In the workshop "data in the chain", the spotlight was on the different perspectives on automation between machine supplier and parts manufacturer. Represented on the one hand by Dennis van Peer, software engineer at machine manufacturer and composite fabrication company Airborne, and on the other hand two consortium partners of the 'Luxovius' project, a collaboration between various Dutch companies with the aim of developing, demonstrating and valorizing a innovative production process for thermoplastic composite aircraft parts ([wccs-platform.nl/luxovius](https://wccs-platform.nl/luxovius)). Luxovius consists of machine manufacturer Boikon, NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, the Royal Netherlands Aerospace Center (NLR), and GKN/Fokker Hoogeveen. Julian de Marchi, expert digital twinning at NLR, and Martin Oost and Steven Hengeveld, both involved in digital manufacturing at GKN Fokker, were present to highlight the aspects of digitization in composite manufacturing.

From Airborne, Dennis talked about digitization of the Airborne production robots, and explained how they collect data to enable a digital twin of the composite manufacturing process. Julian from Royal NLR talked about how that data should be shared in order to help the composite manufacturer as much as possible with process optimisation. And Martin and Steven of GKN Fokker have highlighted where this can clash at the company boundary, because not all data may just be shared. The format of the workshop was deliberately a concise presentation, followed immediately by the space for a stimulating discussion among those present.

Three core aspects of “data in the chain” are emphasized:

1. Digital Twinning (collecting, analyzing and presenting data)

2. Digital Ledger Technology (ensuring facts for certification purposes, for example)

3. Trust Linking (being able to share sensitive data with predefined permissions)

These are all hot topics, but the last one in particular aroused a lot of interest and passionate discussion. With on the one hand recognition that sharing data with each other has enormous value, while on the other hand the data itself has so much commercial value that parties are hesitant or not even free to reveal it. Trust Linking – being able to freely share data with each other in an automated way with clearly associated confidentiality of intellectual property – is really a hot topic!

Everything that has to do with this has also been discussed by the various participants:

* The need for standards
* Data (gathering) as a business case
* Data security
* Sharing data with associated permissions
* Value and ownership of data
* Liability, legal liability
* Design optimization based on data
* Importance of trust in the chain