



SME Working Group

Press Release

Brussels, June 17th 2025

SMEs on the Spotlight: Driving Innovation in the Next Generation of Communication Networks

NetworldEurope SME WG at EuCNC & 6G Summit 2025 | Poznań, 3–6 June

At this year's [EuCNC & 6G Summit in Poznań](#), the [NetworldEurope SME Working Group \(SME WG\)](#) played an active role throughout the event, highlighting the strategic contribution of SMEs to Europe's digital and telecom future.

With WG members such as Montimage, Ubiwhere, Logiicdev GmbH, IS-Wireless, Neutron, Internet Institute, RunEL, EANTC AG, IMST GmbH, and INFOLYSiS present across demos, booths, and networking sessions, the SME WG showcased the achievements of Europe's agile and innovative tech actors.

A highlight of the week was the dedicated session “SMEs in the Spotlight: Driving Innovation in the Next Generation of Communication Networks”, held on Thursday, 5 June. The session opened with a **welcome by Jessica Carneiro, Chair of the SME WG**, who also delivered a **talk on the strategic role of SMEs in SNS development** and offered key figures on their growing participation in EU-funded programmes. **Oana Radu, Programme Officer at the SNS JU**, followed with a strong institutional message underlining how SMEs contribute to Europe's leadership in 6G through their agility, impact on digital sovereignty, and innovation in vertical applications.

In his keynote, **Rui Aguiar, Chair of NetworldEurope**, highlighted the critical need for a thriving SME ecosystem to ensure Europe's competitiveness in future network technologies. He stressed the importance of embedding SMEs into the SNS value chain, not only as contributors to research but also as drivers of real-world deployments, standardisation, and cross-sector innovation.

The session continued with **four success stories**. **Janez Sterle (Internet Institute)** presented achievements in private 5G systems and industrial testbeds. **Adam Flizikowski (IS-Wireless)** introduced the LiquidRAN concept for flexible and scalable network deployments. **Edgardo Montes de Oca (Montimage)** showcased solutions in cybersecurity monitoring, threat detection, and 5G/6G resilience. **Israel Koffman (RunEL)** shared how their 5G-based real-time location system delivers centimeter-level accuracy in complex environments.

A final panel discussion titled “**How SMEs Are Shaping the Future of Connectivity**”, moderated by **Jessica Carneiro**, brought together **Mikael Fallgren (Ericsson and SNS SB Chair)**, **Konstantinos Maliatsos (University of the Aegean)**, **Yudani Riobó Gestido (Quobis)**, and **Kostas Trichias (6G-IA**



SME Working Group

and SNS TB Chair). The panel explored how SMEs can overcome structural barriers, access funding, and participate in standardisation while leading innovation in next-gen connectivity.

As Europe advances toward 6G and beyond, the NetworldEurope SME WG remains committed to elevating the voice of SMEs, building bridges between stakeholders, and ensuring that smaller actors continue to lead with agility, creativity, and technological excellence in shaping the continent's digital infrastructure.

About [NetworldEurope SME Working Group](https://www.networld-europe.eu)

The NetworldEurope SME Working Group is the voice and networking hub for SMEs in the telecommunications sector. Established in 2014, it promotes SME expertise in digital communications and supports their participation in EU research and innovation programmes through advocacy, visibility, and community engagement.

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