# FIWARE standards adopted by four leading European ICT Companies

Orange, Telefónica, Engineering and Atos have announced their commitment to support FIWARE standards for Smart Cities

**Barcelona, 04.03.2015.** – After the successful results of the first Open Call of the FIWARE Accelerator Programme, we are witnessing the first steps in the commercial support of FIWARE, thanks to Telefónica, Orange, Engineering and Atos. Their adoption of FIWARE standards to foster the development of Smart Cities is a clear sign in this direction.

The four companies have stated that FIWARE will not only help improving the efficiency of municipal services but will help transforming cities into engines of growth, creating the foundation for a new Digital Revolution.

This announcement, made in Barcelona during 4YFN and Mobile World Congress, comes with a commitment by the four companies to support the activities of the Open Source community to be launched around FIWARE in the first half of 2015. FIWARE brings an open ecosystem involving application developers, platform technology providers and domain stakeholders like cities. It was born in 2011 as a public-private partnership between the European Commission and major ICT players but has recently become global with launch of activities in Latin America.

"There is an incredible opportunity for European cities to take advantage of open solutions and a wide community of developers, to quickly bring digital services and innovations to their citizens", commented Patrice Slupowski, Vice-President of Digital Innovation, Orange.

The Chief Architect of FIWARE, Juanjo Hierro, has shown his excitement with this agreement. "FIWARE standard APIs, combined with standard data models developed jointly by cities and application developers, will ensure portability and interoperability of Smart City applications", explains Hierro.

"This will allow to develop Smart City applications once for many cities. As it happened with smartphones, the market for applications based on FIWARE standards will be large enough to attract startups and small enterprises developing new innovative services for citizens and businesses in urban areas". "Not only enterprises", said Hierro, "but also public authorities and cities should bet on this common standard".

"FIWARE does not just support a more efficient management of municipal services. It brings open standards enabling to transform cities into engines of growth", explains Marieta Rivero, Chief Deputy Commercial Officer at Telefónica. "Using FIWARE, Smart Cities can deliver the platform, combining Open Data and the APIs based on which new innovative applications can be created", she explained.

FIWARE will overcome the current obstacles towards portability and interoperability of Smart City solutions. For Bruno Fabre, Executive Vice-President of Telcos, Media & utilities in Atos, "the Smart City market has proven to be a slow process. The combination of open-source solutions and a new approach for business models will unlock this new opportunity for the Third Digital Revolution". Telefónica, Atos, Engineering and Orange aim to support the open source community "where implementation of FIWARE standards will be maintained and evolved". This will not only help FIWARE platform providers to emerge faster in the market, but will also ensure the independence of innovation.

Paolo Pandozy, CEO of Engineering, states: "Innovation for Engineering is a key success factor continuously pursued from its birth back in 1980. Tightly coupled with innovation is independence, meaning we all build our solutions taking into consideration what we consider to be the best for our customers. In this context, we see our strategic and full involvement in FIWARE. It is a set of technologies allowing us to be leaders in the market of open solutions. In addition, Openness and Innovation are critical building blocks in the fast growing domain of Smart Cities for which Engineering is providing a leading edge innovative offering".

FIWARE has been actively present during the whole 4YFN event. Participants have had the opportunity to know FIWARE and the FIWARE Accelerator Programme thanks to workshops (such as "Making the Internet of Things Simple"), conferences and roundtables.


**Enterprises selected in the first Open Call of the FIWARE**

Acceleration Programme are already working hand in hand with the 16 accelerator projects supporting the programme. In Barcelona, participants have been able to meet with some of these accelerators: European Pioneers, FI-C3, CreatiFI, SOUL-FI, FINODEX, IMPACT, FABulous. They have also heard the testimonies of some of the startups funded under the FIWARE Acceleration Programme: Olive Card, Avuxi, Smart Drive, Appscend, Goal Schouter, Notegraphy, 8 Fit, Coffee Strap, Healthia, Revise Ly, Multidub, Protopixel. The first Open Call has proved the FIWARE Accelerator Programme to be a great opportunity for entrepreneurs.

This ambitious programme was announced last September in ECFI 2014 (Munich) and now, through 16 FIWARE accelerator projects, it is helping European startups, SMEs and enterprises to grow their business, supported by the grants given away by the European Commission (80 million euros) as well as coaching and support by the accelerator projects.

These startups will carry out development of applications using FIWARE and the FIWARE Lab, an experimentation environment that has already federated 16 data centers in Europe and Latin America. After the success of the first call, a second call will be launched in the coming weeks. Until 2016, the 16 FIWARE accelerator projects will give funding, through different open calls, to European startups and enterprises.


**For interviews, statements and further info, just contact FIWARE Press Office**

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