

**LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTH**

# Graciously effective MEDTECH

## **FLANDERS, WHERE MEDICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ARE SYNONYMOUS**

As the origin of innovations ranging from surgical robots to medical wearables to 3D-printed implants and even organs, Flanders is a true medtech pioneer. The region's extensive funding landscape and the government's innovative cluster policy, among other things, provide an ideal breeding ground for groundbreaking medtech solutions. Will you soon become part of this unique ecosystem as well?

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Local and international societal challenges – such as the world's aging population and increasing pressure on governmental budgets – are changing the face of healthcare. The focus is shifting from a curative to a preventive approach and from one-fits-all to personalization. Technology plays a key role in these trends. With research centers such as imec (nano- and digital technology), Flanders is leading the way forward in the development of innovative technologies and their applications in real life.

### **Medtech at the cutting edge of various disciplines**

The next generation of medtech solutions is situated at the cutting edge of healthcare, nano- and biotech, but also cybersecurity, another field in which technology companies from Flanders are at the top of their game. Digital players contribute deep expertise in data security, a crucial factor for the future of medical technology.

#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

Orsi Academy in Melle (Flanders) is the world's largest training center for robotic surgery.

### **Ideal breeding ground for ambitious start-ups**

Flanders is home to world-renowned education institutions, research centers and business schools. They provide top-level researchers, engineers and entrepreneurs. The extensive funding landscape and numerous incubator and accelerator programs ensure that start-ups and scale-ups in Flanders have every opportunity to develop into successful businesses.



**Flanders**  
State of the Art

#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

Flanders is the European number 2 for clinical trials per capita and has one of the fastest application procedures in the world.

### **Co-creating answers to societal challenges**

Research centers (such as imec and VIB) are increasingly co-creating in partnership with the world of business to test and commercialize novel solutions. Together, they can count on a supportive government that puts a lot of effort into providing adequate financial incentives, including tax incentives and subsidy schemes.

But fostering the growth of clusters is also an important focal point of the government of Flanders. For example, the multidisciplinary network of cluster organization flanders.health builds bridges between technological players and healthcare innovators. By bringing all the sector actors around the table and looking for mutual synergies, Flanders continues to excel in formulating answers to medical and healthcare challenges.