



PRESS RELEASE – MACHINEERING NEXTGEN EXPERIENCE

Kortrijk Xpo – 09/04/2026

** For immediate release **

Strong debut edition of Machineering NextGen Experience lays the groundwork for future growth

Machineering NextGen Experience (MNE) delivered a highly successful first edition on March 26 and 27, 2026 at Kortrijk Xpo. Designed as a networking-focused event complementing the leading Machineering demo show at Brussels Expo, MNE brought together industry professionals for two days around machine building, automation, and advanced manufacturing technologies.

The high quality of interactions and business contacts clearly confirms the concept's potential and provides a solid foundation for future development and upcoming editions.

Strong exhibitor turnout and high-quality visitors

The event welcomed 103 exhibitors and 1,258 professional visitors from both domestic and international markets. Decision-makers, engineers, and production managers engaged with an offering fully aligned with the challenges of tomorrow's industry.

Exhibitors particularly highlighted the quality of the contacts made. Thanks to clearly defined technology themes and an AI-driven personalization tool, visitors were able to plan their visit efficiently and purposefully.

“Machineering NextGen saw strong attendance, creating a highly engaging and enjoyable networking atmosphere

Griet Missinne – De Fruytier

Many attendees arrived with concrete projects and targeted questions, resulting in focused discussions and valuable connections. The combination of live demonstrations and meaningful interactions provided clear insights into future production environments and potential technology partners.

Innovation and talent development driving the manufacturing industry

Machineering NextGen Experience brought together innovative applications and practical technologies within a compact and well-structured networking environment. Across 103 technology partners, visitors explored solutions in automation, digitalization, AI-driven production processes, and smart manufacturing.

Within the five Central Manufacturing Hubs, 36 partners collaborated across 11 live production setups. These working demos, supported by hands-on explanations, made technology tangible and directly applicable for industrial use.

The event also placed strong emphasis on talent development. Students from technical programs and universities had the opportunity to actively engage with cutting-edge technologies. For example, graduate students from VIVES University College in Kortrijk programmed machines live and worked with CAD/CAM software on tooling libraries.

This close collaboration between industry and education highlights the importance of hands-on learning and contributes to addressing the growing demand for skilled technical profiles.

The shared mission of organizers and exhibitors was clear: Connecting companies around practical, step-by-step solutions tailored to their specific needs and investment capabilities.

Strong added value for the industry

Both exhibitors and visitors look back on a highly successful first edition. The combination of high-end technology, relevant networking opportunities, and a forward-looking approach was widely appreciated.

The event clearly demonstrates the need for a specialized platform where the manufacturing industry can meet, exchange ideas, and strengthen its ecosystem.

Visitor profile aligned with industry expectations

Top 10 represented sectors (by attendance):

1. Mechanical Engineering - High Tech Systems & Mechatronics
2. Agro-industry / Agriculture / Mining
3. Automotive & Aeronautics Industry
4. Engineering & automation services/integrators
5. Prototyping & Product Design
6. Production & distribution of building materials
7. Production and distribution Machinery and High-Tech Systems & Materials
8. Mould making & design
9. Aerospace Industry
10. Packaging Industry

Looking ahead to Machineering 2027

Following this successful launch, attention is already turning to the next edition in 2028.

Before that, the flagship Machineering event will take place from March 24 to 26, 2027 at Brussels Expo. Machineering is the largest technology showcase for manufacturing technologies and machine building at Brussels Expo.

The NextGen and networking concept will also be integrated into the Machineering show floor, with an expanded focus on exhibition and live demonstrations (approximately 12,500 m² of exhibition space).

More information at www.machineering.eu

** End of press release **

INFO & LINKS

- [Pictures MNE](#)——
- [Aftermovie](#)

Next up: Machineering Brussels Expo

Wednesday 24 March 2027 from 10.00 till 18.00

Thursday 25 March 2027 from 10.00 till 22.00

Friday 26 March 2027 from 10.00 till 16.00

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