

In my talk, I'm going to focus on two different perspectives. First I will address the current technology transfer challenges at VTT and how an internal department, VTT Ventures was established to support individual researchers and provide added value to VTT's research. Then I will describe the challenges from the perspective of young researchers and how a network of young professionals (YEAR) provides support through different training activities as well as organising meetings and initiating discussion between Research & Technology Organisations (RTO) on issues restricting successful technology transfer.

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland is the biggest multitechnological applied research organisation in Northern Europe. With its 2700 employees, VTT provides high-end technology solutions and innovation services as a non-profit organisation under the domain of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy. From a wide knowledge base, VTT can combine different technologies, create new innovations and a substantial range of world class technologies and applied research services thus improving its clients' competitiveness and competence.

Young European Associated Researchers (YEAR) is a network established by six European RTOs in 2007 in order to encourage cross-border and interdisciplinary creativity and alliances among young European researchers. YEAR aims at facilitating exchange of ideas, best practises and people that may help to break down national and cultural barriers and structure the European Research Area (ERA).