Kepstrum secures ENCQOR 5G support for collaborative 5G project to Improve supply chain quality control and reliability

CONCORD – March 8, 2021 - The ENCQOR 5G SME Technology Development Program, facilitated by the Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI), is pleased to announce a collaborative research project between Kepstrum Inc., the inventor of Product DNA and a global leading provider of AI and Physics-based Prognostics and Health Management technologies, and Ciena, a networking systems, services, and software company.

The ENCQOR 5G SME Technology Development Program partners Ontario-based SMEs with ENCQOR 5G Anchor Firms on 5G technology development projects.

"Being able to bring collaborators together to leverage emerging technologies and address the big challenges of the day is a central focus of OCI," said Dr. Claudia Krywiak, President and CEO of OCI. "Through ENCQOR 5G, we are supporting Ontario-based businesses to access the anchor customers needed to grow and export, while they build, test and demonstrate their innovations on the networks of the future."

By leveraging state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms and methods, Kepstrum and Ciena will explore ways that artificial intelligence can be leveraged to provide greater supply chain quality control and reliability. Dr. Ataee, the author of *Artificial Intelligence: Unorthodox Lessons*, leads the research in this collaboration.

Ciena's wide spectrum of manufacturing data collected during the product life cycle, including Ciena's 5G products, as well as the knowledge and expertise brought in by the Kepstrum team, have motivated Ciena to collaborate with Kepstrum in advanced research to explore ways that AI can improve the supply chain quality and reliability.

Digital Twin Solutions, the intersection of AI with physics-based models, is projected to grow 10x in the next five years, which reinforces the importance of this digital transformation.

"The Digital Twin Solution will enable a fast-response manufacturing prognostics for early detection, offering traceability and connectivity between development and field," says Payman Kianpour, CEO, Kepstrum.

About ENCQOR

ENCQOR 5G (Evolution of Networked Services through a Corridor in Quebec and Ontario for Research and Innovation) is a major partnership in the field of 5G disruptive technologies focused on research, innovation and the adoption of 5G products and services by end users. ENCQOR provides companies and public-sector researchers with access to a pre-commercial 5G testbed to enable them to develop and test innovative solutions and applications. ENCQOR is made possible thanks to private and public investments from the governments of Canada, Quebec and Ontario, as well as world leaders in digital technology (Ericsson, Ciena, Thales, IBM Canada and CGI). ENCQOR is delivered in Ontario by the Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI).

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